

## **Impulsive Vow to an Enigmatic Husband Chapter 1721**

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Chapter 1721

Zavier chuckled, "You're finally catching on."

Skylar shot back, "I was never dumb to begin with."

Zavier fell silent, focusing on the road as he drove.

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They reached a certain spot and switched cars, and after a few more minutes, they arrived at Kalene's place.

Kalene lived in another villa area, and the overall environment was much newer compared to the one where Rivera's Manor was located. The landscaping looked good, though it lacked some historical charm.

It was Skylar's first visit, "This is my first time meeting your mom. Should we bring something?"

Zavier dismissed the idea, "You're not seriously going to be her daughter-in-law, no need to suck up to her."e2

Skylar insisted, "It's basic manners, though."

Zavier asked, "Ever hear the saying, 'Nice guys finish last'? Sometimes you've got to unleash a little crazy, Skylar. Don't always take things lying down. If you do that, you'll find the world becomes a much nicer place."

"Thanks for the advice. I'll give it a shot, Skylar replied.

Zavier got out of the car first and, like a true gentleman, opened the door for Skylar. "Nora's probably at my house. No matter what she says, just ignore her."

Skylar pondered for a moment, "Is she the one you and your grandpa were talking about?"

“Curiosity killed the cat, Skylar. Some things are better left unknown,” Xavier warned.

“Zavier...”

“What now?” he asked.

“You’re just like grandpa said, all bark and no bite.”

Zavier scoffed, “Don’t pretend you know me. I can be a real nightmare, even to myself. Don’t be so quick to label me the good guy, or you’ll regret it.”

“And you shouldn’t be so keen on playing the villain. Look at your friends, especially Marcus. He’s the picture of calm and sophistication, yet everyone shudders at his name.”

It was the first time Skylar had ever brought up his friends, and Xavier looked at her, intrigued, “What? Got a thing for Marc?” Skylar glared at him, “What nonsense are you spouting?”

“If you like him, just tell me. I wouldn’t mind playing matchmaker,” Xavier said casually.

“Are you out of your mind? I’ve met the guy once, how could I possibly like him? And even if I did, it doesn’t mean he’d return the feelings,” Skylar retorted.

“So, if he did like you back, you’d go for it?”

“You really know how to pick your moments,” Skylar said, turning to walk away.

Suddenly, Xavier grabbed her arm, “Touched a nerve, have I?”

Skylar fumed, “Right now, I just want to make enough money to bring my sister to the Capital. I don’t have time for romance, least of all with a man I’ve only met once.”

“Alright, next time we’ll hang out together. Give you a chance to fall for him,” Xavier teased.

Skylar’s face flushed with anger, “Are you so desperate to get rid of me that you’re pushing me onto other men?”

Biting her lip in frustration, Skylar said firmly, "Zavier, I've told you I won't cling to you. As soon as we can get out of our families' plans, I'm ready to call off the engagement. You don't have to rush to hand me off to another man."

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Chapter 1722

Zavier awkwardly scratched his ear, "Alright, no more jokes. Let's head inside, shall we?"

Fuming, Skylar had no interest in dealing with him any further, but Zavier reached for her hand, "To ease my mom's mind, I told her we've patched things up. We've got to put on a show for her."

Skylar, not wanting to upset an elder, reluctantly handed over her hand. Together, they walked inside.

Upon their arrival, with Zavier leading Skylar by the hand, Kalene's face lit up with joy, but Nora spoke first, "Finally decided to show up, did you?"

Zavier replied, "Auntie Nora, what brings you here?"

Nora retorted, "Your mother's been under the weather, so naturally, I'm here to keep her company. Not like you, after wrapping up your dad's affairs, you couldn't spare a thought for her."

Zavier said, "Well, I'm back now, aren't I? Skylar and I will take good care of Mom. You won't have to worry."e2

Nora challenged him, "Are you trying to shoo me away?"

Zavier, with a cheeky grin, said, "I just don't want you wearing yourself out at your age. It's not about sending you away."

Nora, exasperated, "Look at the son you've raised, Kalene! He's got no sense of right or wrong. The nicer someone is to him, the more awful he gets. And the ones who are hard on him? He treasures them like jewels."

Her gaze shifted pointedly towards Skylar, "I can't imagine what kind of witchcraft you've used on him."

Zavier squeezed Skyler's hand tighter, "This is the fiancée my grandfather chose for me. I hope you will show her some respect from now on."

Nora was at a loss for words, fuming but unable to retort.

Zavier showed no mercy, "Butler, please show my aunt out."

Nora turned to her sister-in-law, "Kalene."

Kalene rubbed her forehead, "Nora, you've been such a help these past few days, and you haven't had proper rest. Why don't you head home and relax?"

With a huff, Nora turned and left.

Once she was gone, Kalene motioned for Xavier to come closer. She opened her arms for a hug, "My son." She could only get two words out before tears began to cascade down her cheeks.

Zavier comforted her, "Mom, please don't be upset. You still have me. And I believe if Dad and my brother are watching over us, they wouldn't want to see you ruin your health over their passing."

Kalene, her voice heavy with grief, "Your father was fine that lunchtime, joking about watching you get married and start a family. Then in the afternoon, just like that, he was gone. Xavier, will you end up leaving me too, like your brother and father?"

Holding Kalene tightly, Xavier promised, "Mom, I won't. I'll always be here for you. I'll fulfill the dreams that Dad and my brother couldn't."

These words inadvertently struck a nerve. "Son, focus on your video games and live a peaceful life with Skyler. Let's leave Rivera Inc. behind. If it's not meant for us, we won't fight for it. Let them battle it out."

Zavier wasn't one to give up so easily, but to avoid upsetting his emotionally fragile mother, he played along, "I'll listen to you, Mom. I won't fight. I'll focus on my gaming and my life with Skyler. We will take care of you together."

"That's right. We won't fight, and then they won't target us," Kalene agreed.

Zavier, concerned about his mother's wellbeing, suggested, "Mom, I'll have the butler pack some of your things. Come stay with me for a while."

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Zavier hoped that moving his mother away from the house, brimming with memories of her late husband and son, might help her heal from this profound loss a little sooner.

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## "Impulsive Vow to an Enigmatic Husband"

Chapter 1723

Kalene shook her head gently and looked up at the yard that was brimming with memories. "Son, this house holds the most memories for our family of four. You and your brother, you both grew up right here."

"Sometimes, when I look at the flowers and the greenery in the yard, I swear I can still see the two of you roughhousing, chasing each other around.

"This is also where your dad and I settled down after we got hitched. We've shared so many memories here."

She lifted her hand, lightly brushing away a tear from the corner of her eye, "I can't leave this place. I need to be here, with your father and your brother."

Zavier wanted to persuade her otherwise, but he couldn't find the words, so he remained silent.

Kalene turned to Skyler, "Skyler, Zavier can be a bit hot-headed and doesn't always think things through. Please, keep an eye on him for me, will you?"

Skyler nodded, "I promise I will."e2

Kalene squeezed Skyler's hand, "Alright then, let's go have dinner. I've brought in a couple of chefs from Southern Port to whip up your favorite Southern Port dishes. Hope you'll enjoy it."

Ever since Skyler had come to the Capital, she hadn't had a taste of authentic Southern Port cuisine. Knowing that Kalene had made such a thoughtful arrangement touched her heart, and she resolved to stand by Zavier through

thick and thin, "Thank you." Kalene smiled, "We're family now, no need for formalities."

The dinner was a cozy affair with just the three of them. The atmosphere was warm and peaceful.

After the meal, Xavier and Skyler stayed the night. Their rooms were prepared by Kalene, considerately giving each of them their own space rather than lumping them together.

Xavier retired to his room, while Skyler took the one next door.

With her mind full of concerns, Skyler found herself unable to sleep. Instead, she sat out on the balcony, gazing at the stars.

The winter break was approaching and the air was biting cold. The chilly breeze stung her face, but she barely noticed it, as her thoughts were occupied with her sister Iris.

How could she bring Iris to the Capital?

Suddenly, the sound of a lighter flicking to life came from the adjacent balcony. The sound was strikingly loud in the quiet night. She peered over and saw nothing, but she knew it was Xavier, "Smoking's bad for you. You should cut down."

Xavier's deep voice drifted over, "You're already trying to boss me around, and we're not even married?"

Skyler retorted, "Who's trying to boss you? I just see you chain-smoking, easily a pack a day. I'm just saying, you're only twenty. Don't wreck your health."

Xavier replied, "Appreciate the concern, but I don't need it."

Skyler thought to herself, 'Forget it, not worth my energy.'

After a while, Xavier spoke again, "How's your job going?"

Skyler responded, "Not too bad. I can support myself now, and even take care of my sister."

The sound of the lighter came again from Xavier's side, probably lighting up another cigarette, "Keep working hard. In this world, you can't rely on anyone but yourself. Being self-sufficient is the only way to go."

Skyler understood that all too well. Thankfully, the skills she picked up from the Blue family were paying off, giving her a means to stand on her own.

After another pause, Xavier asked, "Why so quiet?"

Skyler shrugged, "Don't know what to say."

Out of the blue, Xavier asked, "What's your dream?"

Skyler let out a wry laugh, "For someone like me, just getting by is the biggest wish I have. Dreams are a luxury."

His heart tightened at her words, and he quickly changed the subject, "Want to hear about my old dreams?"

Skyler replied, "If you're willing to share, I'm willing to listen."

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### Chapter 1724

Zavier let out a sigh before he began to share, "I'm the second born in our generation of the Rivera family. Since I had an older brother who showed a natural talent for business from a young age, our family put all their efforts into grooming him."

"They never expected me to take on the mantle of Rivera Inc., so I had the freedom of a child without such weight on my shoulders. I just had to go to school like any other kid and then I could play any games I wanted after completing my homework.

"My brother, only three years older than me, would watch me play, and I could tell he wanted to join in, but he couldn't afford the time. His schedule was jam-packed with learning, except for the few hours he got to sleep.

"Back then, I made up my mind that I'd create games one day-games that were fun and easy to play, so that my brother could enjoy them in his rare free time. Now, I've tailored a game just for him, but he'll never get to play it."

It was only now that Skyler realized why Xavier had put so much care into perfecting the game and its theme music-it was all for his brother. The game was made, but the person it was made for was gone.

Skyler opened her mouth, to offer some words of comfort to Xavier, but she didn't know what to say, so she remained silent. Xavier continued, "My brother was a great guy, and a wonderful son. He was the beacon of hope for our family. But he's dead now, I must make the one responsible pay for what they've done."e2

Fearful that Xavier might do something rash, Skyler said, "Xavier, maybe your brother just wanted to live a life true to himself, not to be chained by the expectations of the Rivera family."

Xavier replied, "You've seen the situation with the Rivera family. It won't stay peaceful just because I give up. I have to finish what my brother started. I can't let his efforts turn to dust."

It seemed everyone had their own battles to fight.

Xavier asked, "So, what are you planning next?"

Instead of answering directly, Skyler confessed, "I have dreams too, but I can't make them happen."

Xavier encouraged her to share.

"I want to be the world's greatest violinist, to perform concerts all around the globe. But..." Skyler trailed off.

She had been accepted into one of the finest music conservatories abroad but had been vehemently opposed by her family. They forced her to attend university in the Capital and pushed her into a major she had no love for.

Xavier understood her struggle, "You're still young. If you keep striving, you can make it happen."

Skyler smiled wistfully, "Those dreams don't matter to me now. What's important is making enough money to bring the people I want to protect closer to me."

"I'm sorry." Xavier said.



Skyler reassured him, "You don't have to apologize. This is my family's issue. It has nothing to do with you."

Zavier could help by insisting on it and getting her sister to the Capital, but with Rivera Inc. undergoing a critical transition, he couldn't afford any distractions, "I'm your fiancé, yet I can't even help with this."

Skyler didn't blame him. Zavier had no obligation to help her sister, "For now, you focus on your responsibilities, and I'll focus on mine. Together, we'll work to make our futures brighter."

"Agreed," Zavier replied.

"It's getting late. You should stop smoking and get some rest," suggested Skyler.

"Alright," Zavier acknowledged.

As Skyler got up to retire to her room, she heard Zavier add, "Skyler, you're far more capable, than you think. Don't doubt your abilities. Go after what you want to do boldly, and don't worry about not doing well."

Skyler felt a warmth spread through her heart, "I'll remember that."

## **"Impulsive Vow to an Enigmatic Husband**

### Chapter 1725

The following morning, Skyler once again hitched a ride back to campus with Zavier.

They arrived early, and the campus was buzzing with students strolling around, enjoying the crisp morning air. As Skyler walked past, she noticed people staring and whispering behind her back.

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Pulling out her phone, she switched on the camera to check her reflection. Her face was clean-no food stains or smudged makeup. So, what was with all the looks?

Confused but not overly concerned, Skyler shrugged it off. She hadn't been to class in days, and since her morning was free, she decided to head back to her dorm to catch up on some reading.

However, no sooner had she stepped through the door than she caught Emma and Amanda deep in the throes of the latest gossip.

On seeing Skyler, they both swiveled around, fixing her with inquisitive stares. "Skyler, you sure know how to keep your lips sealed. We've been roomies for months, and we had to hear about your little secret from someone else?" Emma chided.

Skyler was genuinely puzzled. "What are you talking about?"

"Oh, don't play dumb with us," Emma continued, "Are we not your friends?"

"I really have no idea what you're referring to," Skyler protested.

Amanda whipped out her phone and flashed a picture in Skyler's face. "Take a look for yourself."

Skyler peered at the screen and saw a photo from Samuel's funeral-it was her standing right next to Xavier, close enough for anyone to sense that their relationship was far from superficial.

Her cover was blown, and there was no use pretending anymore.

"Spill it, Sky," Emma demanded. "No more secrets."

"It's not what you think," Skyler tried to explain.

But Amanda cut her off, "You're right next to him in the photo, standing by his side like you're already family. That's as good as a confirmation."

After living together for nearly three months, Skyler felt a bond with her roommates and decided to come clean, "It's all been arranged by our parents. There's no romance between us."

"So, you and Xavier are an item with your parents' blessing? You're his official fiancée?" Emma deduced.

"It's not like that." Skyler sighed.

Emma and Amanda weren't interested in nuances. They were all too happy to jump to conclusions.

"That explains why Desiree was always on your case-she must've known you're the real deal. How can she, the fake girlfriend, compete with you?" Amanda theorized.

"Let's drop it. I just want to study," Skyler deflected.

"Suit yourself," Amanda said. "But the whole school knows by now. You won't have much peace from here on out."

Skyler just groaned in response.

In the midst of their conversation, someone knocked on the door. Emma, who was closest, swung it open to find a group of girls she didn't recognize.

"What do you want?" Emma asked, puzzled.,

Without waiting for an invitation, the girls barged in. "We're here to see Skyler."

They made themselves at home, crowding around Skyler. "So, you're Xavier's fiancée?"

"Skyler, we had no idea. No wonder Xavier publicly cleared up that Desiree isn't his girlfriend-it was all for you, his one and only."

"Zavier's so sweet to you. You're so lucky."

"Yeah, totally. I'm green with envy," they gushed, each trying to outdo the other, completely oblivious to Skyler's discomfort.

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## **"Impulsive Vow to an Enigmatic Husband"**

Chapter 1726

It was as if waves of people were crashing against Skyler's shore, one after the other, consuming the entire morning and turning her routine upside down.

And it wasn't just for the day. For the following days, Skyler was like the school's novelty act, drawing crowds wherever she went, turning into some sort of mobile tourist attraction on campus.

Zavier was well aware of the situation.

Leaning in, Garrett whispered to him, "Zavier, the whole school's buzzing about Skyler being your fiancée. Aren't you going to set the record straight?"

Zavier replied nonchalantly, "She is my fiancée. What's there to clarify?"

Garrett stared at Zavier incredulously, "Man, at the start of the semester, you couldn't stand the thought of being linked to your 'fiancée. And now, just a few months later, you're acting like you're head over heels. Don't tell me you've fallen for Skyler and actually want to marry her?"

Zavier shot Garrett a frosty glance, "Whether I marry her or not is none of your business. And for the record, even if I don't, she wouldn't give you a second glance. So, you might as well get over her now."e2

Garrett shrugged, "Once I knew she was off-limits, I backed off. I may not have many virtues, but I know when to fold."

Zavier simply stated, "Keep an eye on her at school."

With a chuckle, Garrett retorted, "With the title of Zavier's fiancée, she hardly needs my protection."

Zavier felt that was true and dropped the subject. He reached for his phone, intending to shoot Skyler a message on WhatsApp, but then he realized he didn't have any of Skyler's contact details. "Do you have Skyler's contact info?"

Garrett was incredulous, "You're telling me you don't even have your own fiancée's number?"

"Just answer the question," Zavier demanded.

"I don't have it, of course. But I'm in a group with Skyler. I'll try to add her, and once she accepts, I'll share her contact with you," Garrett offered.

Zavier nodded in approval.

Garrett attempted to add Skyler as a friend on WhatsApp, only to be met with a notification that her account was private and wouldn't accept friend requests.

He showed the screen to Xavier, "I can't send her friend requests."

"Then get me into this group," Xavier instructed.

Garrett complied immediately.

In no time, Xavier was in the group, "Which one is Skyler?"

"That's the one with the black profile picture and no nickname," Garrett pointed out.

Hearing this, Xavier didn't hesitate to tag Skyler, "@Skyler, this is Xavier. Add me on WhatsApp."

No one dared to tease openly, but the group's numbers swelled from a few dozen to five hundred in minutes, a testament to their curiosity.

Yet, Skyler did not respond to Xavier's message. She was in class, a time when she never carried her phone.

Her roommate Emma slid her a note, "Skyler, Xavier's asking you to add him on WhatsApp in the reading competition group."

Skyler scribbled a reply, "No phone with me. Tell him I'll add him after class."

Before Emma could send the message, Xavier appeared at the entrance of their lecture hall, ignoring the ongoing lecture, his voice booming, "Skyler, I asked you to add me on WhatsApp. Why haven't you?"

## **"Impulsive Vow to an Enigmatic Husband"**

### Chapter 1727

Skyler unconsciously glanced at the professor lecturing on the stage. The professor's attention was also drawn to Xavier. Luckily, the professor was easy-going and didn't get mad. "Mr. Rivera, let's discuss matters after class, please. No need to disrupt everyone's learning."

“Sure thing, Professor,” Xavier complied obediently, then strode over to where Skyler was sitting, fixating on Emma who was seated next to her.

Emma, ever so considerate, promptly stood up, offering her seat to Xavier. “Here, Xavier, take my spot.”

Xavier sat down beside Skyler and whispered, “Why didn’t you add me on WhatsApp?”

All eyes were on them, making Skyler extremely uncomfortable, her head nearly buried into the desk. “I didn’t bring my phone. I was about to ask Emma to message you back when you showed up.”

Xavier queried, “Why not bring your phone?”

Skyler responded, “I want to pay attention during class.”e2

Xavier pressed, “Really? Or you just don’t want to add me?”

Skyler, exasperated, retorted, “Do you want to pat me down to see if I have a phone on me?”

“That won’t be necessary,” Xavier said. “After class, once you get your phone, add me immediately. I need to talk to you.” Skyler asked, “About what?”

Xavier suddenly turned serious, “We should focus on the lecture now. After class, add me on WhatsApp, and I’ll tell you.” With that, he stood up and left.

As he walked away, everyone still stared at Skyler as if she were an exhibit. Skyler muttered under her breath, “Unbelievable.” Xavier was a piece of work, always acting without considering the consequences. He seemed oblivious to the concept of embarrassment, and apparently thought nobody else understood it either.

Emma sat back down beside Skyler, smirking mischievously. “Skyler, you say your engagement to Xavier was arranged by your families, but it seems like he’s quite into you. Especially the way he was looking at you just now.”

Skyler reprimanded, “Focus on the lecture, and stop talking about irrelevant people.”

Emma protested, “He’s your fiancé, hardly irrelevant.”

“Back to class, Emma,” Skyler insisted..

Emma was about to reply when a buzz from another WhatsApp group caught her attention.

A message popped up, [OMG, Zavier just came to our classroom looking for Skyler, asking why he wasn't added on WhatsApp. Did Skyler get mad at something Zavier did and delete him?]

Someone immediately chimed in, [LOL, never thought the day would come to see the the arrogant and presumptuous Zavier in such a plight. He looked so pitiful and cute when he came to find Skyler.]

[Is it for real?] another asked.

A picture snapped on the sly as proof was promptly shared in the group, [These two are like something out of a billionaire romance novel.]

The group's chatter grew more animated, and Emma joined in, her attention to the lecture completely gone.

After class, Skyler rushed back to her dorm, grabbed her phone, and immediately added Zavier as a WhatsApp contact.

Upon accepting the request, Zavier quickly messaged, [Heard you penned and composed the theme song for that hit show that's all the rage now?]

Skyler replied, [Yeah, what about it?]

Zavier continued, [That song is topping the charts on all major music platforms. You must be raking it in from this one.]

Skyler simply answered, [Yeah. Is that what you wanted to talk about?]

After a brief pause, Zavier messaged again, [The song you did for my company's game has gone viral, even folks who don't game. are singing it. Now, with this smash-hit TV show's theme song being even more popular than the show itself, topping music charts left and right with songs you've written and composed. Skyler, just think about the value you're holding now.)

**"Impulsive Vow to an Enigmatic Husband"**

Chapter 1728

Skyler never expected that the song she wrote would be so well-loved. Now, wherever she went, she could hear her own song, and it was truly a delightful experience. “I didn’t think it that far,” she’d say with a shrug, “I am just focusing on learning and making music for a living.”

Zavier’s voice broke through his musings, “Hey, come have dinner with me tonight. We need to talk about all this buzz you’re creating.”

“Sure thing,” Skyler replied.

“Meet me at the South Gate now, I’m waiting for you.”

“On my way,” Skyler said, and with that, she grabbed her jacket, not bothering to change her clothes, knowing full well how precious Xavier’s time was.

Emma caught her just as she was leaving. “Did you add Xavier? What were you two chatting about? Rushing off like this, is it a date?”

“A date? No way, he wants to discuss work stuff,” Skyler retorted.

“You dummy, work my foot! He’s just using that as an excuse to take you out.”

Skyler didn’t buy it for a second. “Gotta go. I’ll bring something back for you guys. What do you want to eat?”

“Wait till Amanda gets back. We’ll text you,” Emma laughed.

“Deal.”

Skyler made a beeline for the South Gate, spotting Xavier’s unmistakable red sports car from a mile away. That guy never knew the meaning of ‘low-key’.

A crowd of students had gathered nearby, buzzing with speculation about Xavier. Skyler quickly got into the car, “People are talking. Let’s get out of here. I don’t want to be on display.”

Instead of driving off, Xavier cheekily lowered the convertible’s top, giving the onlookers a show.

“What are you doing?!” Skyler exclaimed.



Zavier replied, "Skyler, stop worrying about what others think. You need the courage to be disliked to live freely."

Skyler knew that to have the bravery to be disliked, one needed strength, and she wasn't sure she had it yet. "Just drive, please." "What, scared of people knowing you're with me?" Xavier prodded.

Skyler nodded, "Yeah."

At her earnest nod, Xavier felt a surge of annoyance, "Ashamed to be seen with me? You think I don't deserve you, huh?" Skyler flinched at his tone, "When did I say you didn't deserve me? Weren't we supposed to work hard to annul this engagement? Since we're both aiming to dissolve it, why make everyone aware that we had this chapter between us?"

Zavier floored the accelerator, the car shooting forward like an arrow. "What if I don't want to annul it?"

Skyler, nearly drowned out by the roar of the engine, asked, "What did you say?"

So the girl was playing deaf now. Xavier ignored her, driving on at breakneck speed.

Skyler clung to her seatbelt for dear life, afraid she might be flung from the car at any moment.

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Eventually, they arrived at a familiar haunt the same place where Xavier had introduced her to his friends before. "Meeting your buddies again?"

Zavier exited the car without a word and strode inside. Skyler hurried after him, "Zavier, what's got you so mad?"

Zavier remained silent. Yeah, what was he so mad about, anyway?

## **"Impulsive Vow to an Enigmatic Husband"**

### Chapter 1729

Skyler and Xavier had a pact – they were in this together, working side by side to break off their engagement. However, when he heard that Skyler wanted to

call it quits, he was so infuriated – so out of his mind with rage. That just wasn't like him, not at all.

He quickly regained his composure. "Look, I don't know much about the ins and outs of the music biz," he said, "You need to find someone who does, so you don't get taken for a ride."

Skyler replied, "Mr. Carter, the one you introduced me to, knows his stuff. I just focus on writing the lyrics and composing the music. He handles all the rest – the production, the promotions, everything."

Zavier glanced at her and chuckled, "You little goof."

She muttered under her breath, "Why do you have to put me down like that?"

"No one's completely trustworthy when money's on the line, Skyler. Sure, Carter's in the music industry, and I sent you because I could see your talent. But I never expected you'd become such a hit, with every track you drop turning into gold," Xavier

his way

said.

"So, what's your point?" Skyler prodded.

He poked her forehead gently, "You. You spend all day thinking about work and making dough but have no clue how to really rake it in."

"I'm happy with what I'm making now. Sure, I'd like more, but it's got to be within my capabilities. I'm all about taking it step by step, not biting off more than I can chew," she said earnestly.

Zavier rolled his eyes at her, "You're doing better than the average Joe, but do you have any idea how much more Carter's making off your hits?"

"We split the profits fifty-fifty, after operating costs. If I pocket half a mil, he should be getting the same, minus his expenses," Skyler reasoned.

"Naive little dummie," Xavier scoffed.

Skyler, getting heated, retorted, "Insult me again, and I'm done talking."

As they arrived at their destination, Xavier smoothly parked the car. "As a friend, I suppose I should give you a bit more insight." Her eyes lit up, "You consider me a friend?"

"Is that a problem?" Xavier shot back.

"No, it's just that you're actually a decent guy, Xavier. I'm glad we can be friends," Skyler smiled.

"Quit buttering me up," he grumbled.

"I mean it. You're good people." At least, he was nicer to her than her own family had ever been.

Zavier wasn't looking for praise, "I'm not the good guy, Skyler. I'm capable of some pretty dark deeds."

She understood him, though. Growing up in a family where danger lurked around every corner, sometimes you had to play the villain to protect yourself and those you care about.

Their moment was interrupted by a teasing voice from outside the car. "What's this? The betrothed couple playing at being besties and acting all innocent with me?"

Skyler's head whipped around to find Steven leaning against the car, with a playful smirk on his face.

Zavier stepped out, "You're early, Steven."

Steven grinned, "When Mr. Xavier summons, I make it a point to show up ahead of time."

As Skyler got out of the car, Xavier asked, "You remember him, don't you?"

"Hi, Mr. Dixon." Skyler greeted cheerfully

Steven chuckled, "We're all friends here. Just call me by my first name, no need for formalities."

"Sure thing, Steven, Skyler agreed, a smile spreading across her face.

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## "Impulsive Vow to an Enigmatic Husband"

Chapter 1730

Zavier nudged Steven with a sly grin, "So, did you finally win over your crush?"

Steven smirked, "That's for me to know."

"Seems like a no to me," Zavier chuckled.

"With the charm I've got, there's no lady I can't woo," Steven boasted. "But I'm playing the long game here, haven't made my move yet!"

"Because of the Salazar family?" Zavier prodded.

"Yeah, the Salazars want to marry their daughter off to me, and my folks are pretty keen on the match. But I've made it clear I won't be tied down to someone I don't fancy. No one's dictating my love life."

Skyler stood by, silent, sympathizing with Steven's predicament. It seemed that the wealthier the family, the more they insisted on strategically arranged marriages, leaving little room for personal choice.

Steven caught the look in Skyler's eyes. "Miss Skyler, my situation with the Salazar girl is nothing like whatever's going on between you and Zavier, so don't lump us together."

Zavier threw Skyler a glance and suddenly blurted out, "There's no other girl for me."

Skyler just nodded, "I see."

Steven burst into laughter. "Zavier, my man, taking over Rivera Inc. is a tough gig, and winning over your lady seems just as tricky. You've got your work cut out for you."

Zavier shot him a glare. "Mind your own business. We're here to talk about music, remember?"

The Dixon Group was a titan in the entertainment industry, and young Steven had already taken the reins of a major entertainment company. That was why

Zavier wanted to pick his brain-hoping to maximize Skyler's benefits in the industry.

"Do you have any idea how busy I am?" Steven complained. "Do you know how many people wish they could see me and can't?"

"So?" Zavier pressed.

"I rushed over from Harbor City just because you called. Guess that shows how much I value you, doesn't it?" Steven said.

"Cut the crap, Zavier grunted.

"Sky, don't worry, there's nothing but a platonic friendship between Zavier and me. No skeletons in our closet," Steven declared, though Skyler had never even considered the possibility.

But now that he mentioned it, Skyler couldn't help but wonder. Her eyes widened as she looked back and forth between the two. "You guys..."

She felt like she'd stumbled upon a scandalous secret. "Look, people are really open-minded these days. Whether it's a homosexual or heterosexual relationship, there's no judgment here. I won't breathe a word of this to anyone. If you need me, I can even help you keep your secret."

Zavier, who wanted nothing more than to throttle her at this point, retorted, "What kind of nonsense are you thinking? We're just friends, nothing like what you're imagining."

But Steven just loved stirring the pot. "Zavier, Sky's offering to be our cover, so quit denying it."

"Steven!" Zavier growled.

"Zavier, don't you love me anymore?" Steven teased.

'One more peep from you, and I'll make sure your own crush gets the wrong idea too, Zavier threatened.

Steven latched onto Zavier's choice of words. "Too? Does that mean Skyler's your crush?"

Skyler panicked, waving her hands frantically. “Steven, don’t get it twisted. There’s absolutely nothing between Zavier and me. Our engagement is just a family arrangement; we’re together out of obligation, not choice. You’re the one he truly loves.”

Zavier’s face turned an impressive shade of green.

Steven howled with laughter. “Oh, Sky, you’re the best. If Zavier and I end up together, I’ll be sure to thank you for what you did for us.”

**"Impulsive Vow to an Enigmatic Husband"**