

## The Consortium's Heir by Benjamin\_Jnr Chapter 51

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Both Alice and Darius looked up at the person who walked up to their table. Darius had a calm expression when he saw the person, but the same couldn't be said for Alice. Her eyes were as wide as saucers.

The person who walked up to their table was Michael Finn, the sole heir of the Finn conglomerate! Michael Finn was Alice's classmate in high school two years ago. Back in their high school, Michael Finn was a very popular figure. He always had tons of people looking up to him and following him about. He was handsome, intelligent and rich, so it was no wonder that many people wanted to be his friend.

Alice on the other hand was not so rich. She never even believed herself to be in his level so she didn't pay attention to him.

However, rumors started flying that Michael was interested in Alice. Alice thought it to be a lie as she didn't have anything to offer him, but when she heard that he rejected the advances of several of her schoolmates, she started having wild thoughts. Few weeks later, Michael asked her to be his girlfriend in front of the whole student body. Being the naïve high school girl she was, she accepted his proposal and became his girlfriend. Unfortunately for her, that was the beginning of her nightmares. Michael Finn came from a very established household, where he was pampered and treated as a king, therefore he was very possessive. Only three days into their relationship, he forbade her from speaking to any of her male school mates. Anytime she was caught disobeying his rule, the male in question would suddenly withdraw from the school, and nothing would be heard about him anymore. When her male friends and school mates heard Michael's rule, they steered clear from her, isolating her. All of them refused to talk to them anymore, afraid of bringing Michael's wrath on themselves. It was a dark period of time for Alice.

Just when she thought it couldn't get any worse, he gave her a new rule that forbade her from talking to her female friends. She was only allowed to talk to him and him alone.

The worst thing was that there was no one Alice could turn to for help. Her parents had died in a car accident, leaving her alone in the world with her younger brother who was still too young. She had tried asking her teachers and the police for help, but because the Finn conglomerate was a powerful one, they refused to offer her help. Left with no choice, with the little insurance her parents left her with after their death, she got on a plane with her younger brother and left with no intention of coming back. However what

she didn't expect was that after two years, she would meet the person who once gave her nightmares on her date with Darius. While she was still staring at Michael with wide eyes, Michael spoke up, jolting her out of her reverie.

"It's been a while hasn't it Alice?" Michael said; his eyes scanning Alice over as he spoke. It

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had only been two years since he last saw her after her departure, yet she was even prettier than she was two years ago. If she was just a budding seed two years ago, she was now a fully blossomed flower.

His eyes burned with passion as he saw how innocent Alice looked and he could feel his possessiveness over her resurfacing.

Back then when she left him without so much as a goodbye, he nearly went mad with rage. Of course being the sole heir of a conglomerate, he naturally knew where Alice ran to. However he was instructed not to chase after her by the Patriarch of the Finn conglomerate, so despite his intentions, he had no choice but to obey. He had been incredibly busy after she left, as he was trying to further elevate the status of the Finn conglomerate. Before he became involved in the family business, he always believed his family to be invincible; but that mindset changed when he became actively involved in the family business. It turned out that there were various families that were more powerful than he could even fathom. There were so many of them who could squash the Finn conglomerate with so much as the snap of a finger. The Finn conglomerate were not even worthy of being mentioned beside them.

Due to that reason, he channeled all his ambitious spirit towards elevating the Finn conglomerate. Nonetheless, despite his busy schedule, he still did not forget about Alice. His desire for her still burned fiercely in his heart. He had made up his mind to see her when he was done with his business. Who would have thought that he would be meeting her here today? "Hi Michael." Alice said; trembling as she spoke. Even after two years, the trauma that Michael inflicted on her had yet to fade. "Do you know him?" a clear voice suddenly spoke up. Michael then turned to the direction of the voice. When he saw Darius sitting calmly and staring at him nonchalantly, his possessive attitude flared up.

"Who is he?" Michael asked; his voice incredibly cold.

Alice trembled when she heard his voice. It was the same voice that gave her sleepless nights and various nightmares. The memories of her relationship with Michael came flooding back. One of his rules was that she was never allowed to disobey him.

Therefore as if programmed like a robot, she immediately answered his question. "He's my friend Darius." Alice answered.

Darius frowned when Alice answered Michael's question. He looked at Alice and was about to condemn her when he noticed her trembling. Not only that, she was fidgeting with one of the rings she wore on her index finger. It was almost as if she was terribly afraid of something.

"A friend?" Michael asked, his voice even getting colder.

"Get up. We're leaving now." Michael ordered. He paid no heed to Darius' presence and completely ignored him. Alice stood up involuntarily and smiled apologetically to Darius. She was about to speak when

Darius beat her to it.

"What do you think you are doing Alice?" Darius asked in an eerily calm voice. Michael scowled when he heard Darius question. However he maintained his silence. He deemed Darius as inferior to him and didn't want to have a conversation of any kind with him. He had been with Alice in the past and knowing her, she would surely agree to leave with him. Alice smiled apologetically again. "Michael and I have a bit of past, so I'm sure he just wants to catch up. I'm sorry to end the date like this. I'll make it up to you later I promise." Alice said. "Alice let's go." Michael urged her impatiently.

Darius spoke up again as Alice was about to leave with Michael. His voice was incredibly dangerous this time, sending shivers down their spines. "I'll ask again. What exactly do you think you're doing, Alice?"

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Alice flinched when she heard Darius' question. She turned back slowly while holding her breath.

Darius sat still on his chair still maintaining his calm expression. However his demeanor was completely different from before. It was as if he changed from a friendly dog to a Lion as he calmly sat on his chair watching her.

Alice gulped slowly before speaking up. "Don't worry Darius. I know Michael. We are just going to have a talk and catch up with the past. You don't need to bother about it." Alice explained.

“You still haven’t answered my question Alice.” Darius replied calmly.

Alice sighed. She knew that Darius wasn’t the person he was anymore, as he was incredibly wealthy, but they were dealing with Michael Finn here, the sole heir of the Finn conglomerate!

When she was in a relationship with Michael back in high school, no one had agreed to help her when she mentioned the situation she was in to them. That only showed her how powerful the Finn conglomerate was. Although Darius was rich, she felt that his wealth was not enough to go against Michael. She believed that he was only standing up for her because he had no idea how terrifying Michael was.

Alice was about to speak again, but Michael beat her to it.

“Forget it. I’m not wasting my time here. Come here!” Michael said. As he spoke, he grabbed Alice’s arm roughly and dragged her with him with the intention of leaving the restaurant.

He had only gone two steps when he felt an arm clamp down tightly on his shoulders. He ignored the hand on his shoulder and tried to move forward, but was unable to.

He tried again, but it was futile as the grip on his shoulder was too strong. Left with no choice, he turned back to face the person.

Darius stood still with his hand on Michael’s shoulder. He didn’t care who Michael was or what his relationship with Alice was. According to what he saw from the single exchange he had with Alice, he guessed that Alice and Michael had a bit of past together, but it was far from a peaceful one.

Alice who was all bubbly and smiling a few minutes ago suddenly started trembling and shaking because of Michael’s arrival. In fact, she looked like she was terrified of Michael.

Darius would never allow someone like that to leave with Alice. Besides, he brought Alice out for a date. How could he allow a complete stranger to leave with Alice?

Michael on the other was very irritated when he saw Darius’ hand on his shoulder. It was like as if a bug was crawling on his skin. However despite his irritation, he became incredibly vigilant.

Even after exerting a bit of force, he was unable to get Darius’ arm off his shoulder. It only meant that Darius was not an average person and his personal strength was impressive.

Not wanting to lose out to Darius, he let go of the hand holding Alice's hand and put them to the hand on his shoulder. Only then did he manage to get Darius' hand off his shoulder.

He glared at Darius when he succeeded. Although Michael was tall, he was still a bit shorter than Darius. Therefore when he glared at Darius it only irked him the more that he was shorter than Darius, because it felt as if Darius was looking down on him.

A few seconds of silence passed, before Michael spoke up, unable to bear the silence anymore.

"You've got a lot of nerve, holding on to me like that." Michael said in an icy tone.

"I should be telling you that. What do you think you're doing by forcefully taking my date away?" Darius countered in an equally icy tone. "Date?" Michael asked. His gaze instantly turned frosty. He turned to Alice and asked in a chilly tone. "What does he mean by that?"

Alice started panicking when she heard Darius say they were on a date. She knew how insane Michael could be whenever he felt that he was in danger of losing her. She had planned to draw Michael's attention away from Darius as she didn't want to involve Darius in her relationship struggles and expose him to Michael's wrath, but Darius' answer had just ruined that possibility. "I mean what I said." Darius said, answering in place of Alice. Michael was even more irritated when Darius answered for Alice. "I see you have a death wish." Michael threatened, glaring at Darius.

"It's you who have a death wish." Darius countered.

The veins on Michael's forehead twitched from anger. He was about to retort when a loud ringing tone echoed where they stood.

Michael put his hand into his pocket and brought out his phone. He was about to ignore the phone call, but when he saw the caller ID, he changed his mind.

Both Darius and Alice watched as Michael turned away from them to answer the phone call. About thirty seconds later, Michael ended the call. He looked at where they stood and spoke in an audible voice.

"This isn't over." Michael threatened. He glanced at Alice for a brief moment before finally making his way out of the restaurant.

Darius scoffed at Michael's threat. He thought of him as nothing but a coward. He was still scorning Michael in his mind when he heard a loud sound beside him. He turned and saw that it was Alice who had fallen to the floor. Her two hands were trembling greatly and she was too scared to stand on her two feet.

Darius helped her up to her feet and directed her to his car. He wondered what kind of relationship that Alice had with Michael that just a single appearance from him would put her in such a mess. He wanted to ask her, but when he saw how disoriented Alice was, he refrained from doing so. She wasn't in the right state of mind now, and would not be able to answer his question

He drove speedily back to the female dormitory. Thirty minutes into the ride, Alice finally got a hold of herself. Even at that, she refused to speak up and just kept staring at the window.

1 hour 30 minutes later, Darius came to a stop outside the female dormitory. Alice alighted from the vehicle

"Are you alright?" Darius asked. He couldn't just allow Alice to leave like that. Alice mustered up a smile at his question. It was not his fault that she was a mess, but he still had the heart to care genuinely about her well being. "I'll be fine. I knew that this isn't how the date is supposed to end, but I'm contented with this already. Thank you." Alice replied. She waved at Darius before walking towards her dormitory

Darius sat in his car, staring at Alice until she was no longer in his line of sight. After confirming that she had arrived safely at her dorm, Darius took one last look around before driving off

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The next few days were incredibly tough for Darius as there were only two days before the one week leave granted to him ran out. He had spent the majority of his time in the study room going over several documents regarding the Reid consortium. However despite his efforts, he had yet to even finish 10% of the work he was supposed to do regarding the Reid consortium.

After signing one more document, he leaned back into his chair and sighed. There were still several documents arranged neatly on the table waiting for him to go through them.

He finally understood what his grandfather meant. There was no way he could handle this work alone. He had fully focused on working during the past few days, yet he had covered so little. He dared not imagine what the case would be when he resumed school. At this rate he would not even be able to get 1% of the work done.

Darius sighed once more. He looked at the antique clock in his study room and saw that it was already time for lunch. He had worked overnight and was so engrossed in his work that the time flew quickly

He hastily took a shower before having his lunch. As soon as he was done eating, his phone pinged, signaling the arrival of a message.

Darius checked the message and saw that it was from Bruce. It was a message updating him about one of the business deals he needed to finalize. There was also a file attached to the message

Darius connected his phone to his laptop and opened the file. He spent the next ten minutes reading the documents in the file, and when he was done he let out a sigh.

He was needed to finalize the deal was between Nix Inc., a subsidiary of the Reid consortium and Numbers Int'l.

Numbers Int'l was a locally acclaimed company which was founded by Rob Bertrand. Rob had founded the company from scratch and built it into the business empire that it was today.

It was a software based company, just like Nix Inc., and many people had very high expectations for it. They had expected it to grow into a mammoth business empire that would go head to head with the tycoon that was Nix Inc. in the tech world. It had that much potential.

Unfortunately, that wasn't the case. Rob Bertrand, the CEO and founder of Numbers Int'l had died suddenly six months ago. It came as a shock to the business world. Before his death, he had held a press conference where he promised the release of an innovative technology that would change the world. Yet not even a day after press conference, he was declared dead.

Many people had claimed that his competitors in the tech world were responsible for his death, however as there were no evidence even after research to prove their involvement in his death, there was nothing the authorities could do.

Although Numbers Int'l were not as colossal as Nix Inc. which was under the Reid consortium, they still held considerable weight in their district. Before the death of Rob, the company had a net worth of over \$350 million. It was a considerable sum of wealth.

That all changed after Rob's death. With no genius mind to lead the software based company to glory, the company growth went downhill.

The stock prices were the first to get hit, with the stock price of the company dropping over 1,000%. Coupled with that, the quality of tech products released by the company also dropped massively. This resulted in a huge loss of sales for the company. Unable



to bear the weight of the losses, the rising company was finally declared bankrupt. Unwilling to let a company with huge potential die out, his grandfather had ordered the upper echelons in the Nix Inc. to obtain ownership of Numbers Int'l.

The upper echelons instantly obeyed, and after a series of negotiations and deliberation, Numbers Int'l finally agreed to sell 100% of their shares to Nix Inc for \$50 million, a far cry from what the software company was actually worth. With total agreements between both sides, the only thing left was for Darius himself to sign the agreement. It was something that needed both his presence and his signature.

The upper echelons were also hosting a meeting regarding the latest technology they developed. Darius' presence wasn't necessary as they would still send the details and conclusion of the meeting to him, but since the meeting was held on the same day his presence was required, he saw no reason not to attend the meeting.

Despite the fact that Darius found the circumstances surrounding Rob's death strange, he did not bother too much about it. The business world was a battlefield, and it was not uncommon for people to die the way Rob did.

Darius leisurely dressed up in his quality office outfit before making his way to his private garage. He had no choice than to put his search for a suitable personal assistant on hold as he had more pressing matters to attend to now.

He got into his Bugatti and drove off. After a few minutes, he got to the Nix Inc. headquarters.

This time around, the security guard didn't bother to ask Darius for his identification. Darius visit the previous time had left a deep impression on him. His background and identity was far too scary for someone of his status. When he entered the main lobby of the Nix Inc. headquarters, the upper echelons came down to welcome him.

Before his arrival, they had made sure to warn the workers that their superior would be visiting the headquarters for a business deal and that they were to be at their best behavior, and anyone who didn't obey the rules would be dismissed immediately. Such measures were needed if they didn't want a repeat of what happened during his previous visit. As they guided Darius to the conference room, each of the workers all bowed lightly as a sign of respect to him when they walked by.

Even if most of them had no idea who Darius was, the fact that the upper echelon accompanied him during his visits not once but twice proved that his identity was far from ordinary. It was only right for them to pay their respect to him.

After a minute or two of walking, the upper echelon guided Darius to an imperial conference room. When they entered the conference room, Darius was shocked by what he saw.



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They all stood up and bowed lightly as Darius walked in. It showed that they were not ignorant about the powerful background Darius had. Only when Darius had sat down at the head of the conference table did the other people in the room sit.

The senior secretary to one of the upper echelon's higher-ranking members passed several documents to Darius before passing them around to the others present. When everyone had received the documents, the secretary stood beside her superior. It was time fo

The meeting commenced with the unveiling of the new products invented by the various researchers in the Innovative research department. Darius maintained a stoic face as he scanned the documents given to him, but he was shocked at what he saw. The Nix Inc. really proved why they were worthy of being the number i tech company in the country.

The documents contained the list of the products and the details about them, along with starting price for their launch. The upper echelons started engaging in various discussions regarding the products, with them asking Darius for his input from time to time.

After two hours, the whole board present finally concluded the meeting about the launch of the new products. The date and venue for the launch was already chosen and the documents regarding the launch signed by Darius.

With the first agenda on the meeting concluded, it was time for the second agenda, which was the takeover of Numbers Int'l.

Although Darius had already reviewed the files sent to him by Bruce, he still reviewed the documents the senior secretary handed over to him. The documents this time contained minute details about the software company Numbers Int'l, ranging from the smallest worker to the employees at the highest level. It was expected, as any takeover the Reid consortium was involved in was carefully monitored. They had to make sure that everything was in place before they took ownership of the company.

Darius read through the documents leisurely. From the files Bruce sent him, Numbers Int'l was a company with huge potential, but from what he read now, many of the employees were actually subpar. He guessed that Rob must have been the one who singlehandedly raised Numbers Int'l to the level it was at before his sudden death.

Darius frowned as he read through the details of the upper echelons of Numbers Int'l. When he signed the documents, he would have to dismiss every one of the Numbers Int'l employees. He couldn't have such people working for him. He was still mulling over what improvements could be done to the software company when he came across an employee details on the documents. He read it dutifully as he did the other details, but as he read further, his look of nonchalance suddenly changed to shock. When he was done reading the details about the employee in the documents, he brought out his phone and sent a message to Bruce. Darius: (Look into this person for me and send me every of her detail.) It didn't take a few seconds before Darius' phone pinged, signaling the arrival of a message.

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Sure enough, Bruce had replied his message.

Bruce: (Certainly Young Master.)

Darius, satisfied with Bruce's response, now focused on the meeting. Another hour passed with them discussing the various ideas that could help improve the software company. After another thirty minutes passed, the upper echelons finally concluded the meeting.

What followed after was straightforward. The contracts between the two companies were reviewed carefully again by the company lawyers before Darius finally signed the contracts.

Having completed the tasks he attended the meeting for, Darius waved them goodbye before leaving the conference room, allowing the upper echelons to conclude the meeting they had today.

His strides were swift as he walked to his car. He had barely sat down in his car when his phone pinged again. Of course it was a message from Bruce. With how efficient Bruce was, he had already completed the task Darius requested of him. Excited, Darius opened the file attached to the message and started reading.

By the time Darius was done reading the file Bruce sent to him, there was a huge smile on his face.

Erin Chrysalis was a lady who came from a very poor family who lived in the countryside, an underdeveloped area. She had gone to the local school in her countryside and bagged a scholarship up to the tertiary level due to her incredible performance.

Due to her poor background, she had to work part time jobs in college so that she could take care of her basic needs as her scholarship only covered her tuition and accommodation, a situation Darius could relate to. However even with her poor living

conditions, she made sure to send enough money to her ailing parents back in the countryside.

When she finished her college education, she had spent a whole year searching for a suitable job. Unfortunately, no one wanted to employ her without demanding something from her in return.

When she was at her last ends, her savior in Rob Bertrand appeared. Just weeks after he founded Numbers Int'l, she applied to be an employee at his company. At that time, they were still sharing a measly office building in a downtown area.

Rob himself had interviewed her, and because of his upright character, Erin was given the job. Together with Rob and few other workers, they all worked tirelessly and watched Numbers Int'l grow to the software giant that it was.

Erin was the happiest of them all when she witnessed the company's rapid growth. She had watched the company grow from being worth a few thousand dollars in a downtown area to a company worth over 350 million dollars. She was even promoted to the position of vice president of the company. Sadly, not all good things lasted. It was the case in her story. Just after she built a big house in

the countryside for her parents and was beginning to enjoy the fruits of her labor, misfortune came knocking on her door.

The founder of the company she worked for and her mentor, Rob Bertrand suddenly died just after announcing the release of his latest products. When she heard the news, she had gone numb with shock. How come someone she spoke with clearly on the phone the previous day was suddenly dead? She found it simply unbelievable.

Before she could even process the shock she received from his death, the shares of the company started dropping rapidly. As the vice president of the company, she pushed her grief away and focused on keeping the company afloat.

In the end, all her efforts were useless. She was not a software engineer or a researcher, so she couldn't help the company in that aspect. Unfortunately that was the core of Numbers Int'l. As there was no genius mind to maintain the quality of the products from the company, the shares of the company hit rock bottom.

Stuck between a rock and a hard place, the board of directors in the company called a meeting. They had decided to sell the company to their direct competitor and the tycoon in the tech world, Nix Inc. for a sum of \$50 million.

Erin was at a loss. Even after her efforts, three months was all it took for the company she worked blood and sweat for to become history. Unable to stomach the turn of events, she was now a regular at Eve bar, an average bar in her district, where she drank away all her sorrows.

Darius smiled again as he recalled the details about Erin. After days of racking his mind on where to get his personal assistant, he finally found someone who was just perfect for the job.

He looked at the time on his watch and saw that it was just the time the bar would open. He started his car and drove off speedily.

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Darius drove his car at top speed as he wanted to arrive at Eve bar as soon as possible. He was naturally breaking the speed limits as he drove, which drew the attention of various traffic officers to him. However when they saw the customized license plate and the expensive looking sports car, they turned a blind eye to his high speed. Such a person would definitely have a powerful identity. As long as he didn't get involved in a road accident, they could overlook his misgivings.

After one hour of driving at top speed, Darius finally arrived at his destination. The outside of the bar was already busy, with the loud music from inside the bar echoing outside the building. There was a long queue of people waiting to enter, showing that the bar was a popular one. When Darius pulled into the parking lot with his sports car, his arrival naturally drew a lot of attention "Wow! Such an expensive sports car!" A male in waiting in the queue said. The moment the bouncers saw the expensive looking sports car, one of them instantly walked up to the sports car. As bouncers who had worked here for a bit of time, they knew that anyone that could afford such an expensive car was not a trivial person. The owners would most likely be heirs to powerful business empires, companies or families; therefore they enjoyed being treated differently from other people. When Darius alighted from the sports car, the females suddenly had hearts in their eyes. So handsome! Darius, having completely embraced his wealthy identity was a complete spec of a male. The females were blushing deeply as they looked at Darius while the males had expression of jealousy on their face. Not only was he handsome, he was also very rich! The world was not a fair one indeed. "This way Sir." The bouncer said, before guiding Darius to the bar through the entrance meant for VIPs.

Soon enough, they were inside the building. Darius tipped the bouncer generously before making his way to an unoccupied table. After ordering a bottle of the most expensive wine available, he sat down and started looking around. The bar was loud and rowdy, and stank of alcohol and sweat, but Darius wasn't bothered. He only had one purpose for coming here anyways. Once he accomplished his purpose, he would leave.

Darius spent the next thirty minutes looking around the bar while waiting for the arrival of . Erin Chrysalis. Just when he thought that she wasn't going to show up today, Darius finally caught sight of her.

She was dressed in a sensual black gown that was a bit exposing, with her hair completely white under the dim lighting in the bar. Her entrance garnered the attention of many men who were lusting after her. However Erin rejected all of their advances and ordered a drink Sure enough, as soon as her bottle of vodka arrived, she started drinking immediately.

Darius watched her empty the contents of the first bottle of vodka. He couldn't help but applaud her alcohol tolerance. He would have been knocked out by a single bottle of vodka if he were in her place. His alcohol tolerance was very bad after all.

Twenty minutes went by quickly. Apart from her emptying the contents of the bottles and the occasional disturbance from the males who wanted to drink with her, nothing else happened.

Darius wanted to talk to her, but couldn't find a way to do so. He was afraid of having his intentions misinterpreted by her. If that happened it would be very difficult to recover from. First impression mattered a lot after all.

He was still thinking of how to approach her when two men came over to her table. Due to the loud music blasting from the speakers and the distance between them, Darius couldn't hear what the conversation among the trio were all about. After a minute he noticed that Erin had a pissed expression on her face. He guessed that she said something mean because a few seconds later the two males who walked over to her table had angered expressions on their faces. The trio argued for a few more minutes before leaving her table in anger.

Darius saw this as his opportunity to approach her. However before he could make his own move, Erin got up from her table and started walking towards the exit after leaving the money for the drinks on her table.

Darius was shocked at her actions. The reports had clearly stated that she usually spent 4-6 hours in the bar before leaving. However what was this situation? Barely thirty minutes had gone by and she was already leaving. Darius cursed under his breath before getting up from his chair and hastily chasing after her. He had to achieve his objective today.

He walked as fast as he could, but inadvertently lost her in the crowd. By the time he exited the bar, she was nowhere to be found.

Darius sighed. He had no choice than to come back again tomorrow. He had hoped to complete his business and hire Erin to be his personal assistant today, but it seemed that wouldn't be the case anymore.

Disappointed with the outcome, he started making his way towards his Bugatti. He had only covered a small distance when he heard a loud scream.

Darius debated whether to ignore the scream or not. The surrounding was very dark after all with little moonlight. It was not uncommon for some couples to get steamy during such days. Perhaps that was the source of the scream.

After debating internally for a few seconds, curiosity got the better of him and he decided to check it out. If it was what he thought it was, he would leave immediately. He was not a pervert after all.

Having come to a decision, he walked towards the source of the scream. However the sight he encountered was the least of his expectations, and was one that filled him endless anger.

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Erin was being held roughly by the two men. Her black gown was torn in some places and their hands were groping her breasts roughly. She tried to struggle with all her strength but she was too weak for them. Not only that, one of the two men had clamped his hands tightly on her mouth so that she would be unable to cry out for help

When Darius saw the unbridled lust in the gaze of the two males and the tears dripping off Erin's face, his eyes went red from rage. He didn't need anybody to tell him what they wanted to do to her. Their actions said it all.

They wanted to rape her.

"What do you think you both are doing right now?" Darius asked in a very icy tone.

The two men jolted from shock when they heard Darius' voice. They didn't expect anybody to be here at all.

"How did you find us?" one of the males asked Darius. "That should be the least of your problems now." Darius replied coldly. The other male removed his hands from Erin and started walking towards Darius menacingly.

"I will overlook your presence if you choose to leave quietly now. If you don't, then don't blame me for what happens to you." The male said threateningly.



Darius however scoffed at his threat.

“I should be the one telling you that.” Darius replied just as threateningly. “If you choose to leave now. I will overlook your crimes. If you don’t, then don’t blame me for your misfortune.”

The male scowled when he heard Darius reply. “Since you have refused to follow the easy way, I won’t mind teaching you a lesson the hard way.” And with that statement, the male lunged at Darius.

Darius expected his move. He effortlessly evaded the first punch the male threw at him before retaliating with a punch of his own. His counter punch landed squarely on the jaws of his opponent.

His opponent staggered back from the hit. There was considerable power in that punch. Unknown to him, Darius had been practicing some martial arts during his free time. That combined with his already athletic body made him a formidable opponent.

The two of them exchanged blows for a few moments before separating once more. The male now had a serious expression on his face. He had greatly underestimated Darius’ strength, From the few blows they exchanged, it was evident that he was on the losing end.

His accomplice saw that his friend was losing, so he roughly pushed Erin to the ground before joining his friend in the fight against Darius.

When Darius saw that the two of them decided to gang up against him, he didn’t panic. From the first exchange he had with his first opponent, he could tell that he was significantly stronger than the duo.

Sure enough, only after a few minutes, the two males dropped to the ground. They were beaten brutally by Darius with black eyes and fractured ribs. On the other hand, Darius was unscathed. 1

They couldn’t believe their luck They just had to run into someone that was significantly stronger than them. It was unlucky for them, but they had lost the fight.

The fight between the trio was not silent, so it attracted the security personnel to their location. Darius explained to the security personnel why he beat them up. They also became angry when they heard his reason. They promised to hand them over to the police and took the offenders-with them, leaving Darius alone with Erin.

Darius looked over at where Erin lay still on the ground. She had fainted from the shock Darius sighed. He scanned her body and let out a sigh of relief when he saw that she only had light injuries on her.



He carried her gently to his car and placed her carefully in the passenger seat before driving off.

[Dragon Lord Imperial Residence, Darius apartment

Erin woke up with a banging headache. She turned over on the king sized bed and took a bottle of water that was on the bedside table to quench her thirst. When she was done, she stood up and walked dazedly to the bathroom in the room to relieve herself. She was still seated on the toilet seat when it hit her.

This wasn't her apartment. As a matter of fact, she had never been here before. Everything here seemed to be ten times more expensive than what was at her apartment. She was sure that whoever brought her here must be very wealthy. She rushed out of the bathroom and looked at herself in the huge mirror in the room.

It was then she noticed that she was completely naked. She immediately grabbed the stylish black bathrobe and covered herself. She couldn't help but start panicking.

How on earth did she get here?

She forced herself to calm down. She had to tread carefully at times like this. After thinking it carefully, she still didn't know how she ended up here. The last thing she remembered was being rough handled by two disgusting men she rejected at her regular bar.

Was it possible that she was raped and kidnapped by the two men? She couldn't remember everything that happened that night clearly after all.

She was still deep in thought when the door to the room opened and a person walked in. She instantly tensed up, but when she caught sight of the person who walked into the room, her eyes widened in shock.

The person who walked into the room was extremely handsome. In addition, he was much taller than she was. He was wearing a bathrobe that was similar to hers, but his was decorated with numerous intricate golden dragon designs. She was also intimidated by his regal demeanor. For a moment, she forgot that she was in a place that was completely unknown to her and was simply mesmerized by his demeanor. It was only when she heard him speak that she came to her senses. "Erin Chrysalis, what do you think about working for me?"

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Erin looked at Darius with confusion displayed on her face.

'Work for him?'

She didn't even know who he was! As a matter of fact, she didn't know how she got here. While she was still trying to figure out where the heck she was, someone appeared and without even offering an explanation, he candidly asked her to work for him. Erin wanted to curse at him, but considering the fact that she didn't know him, and neither did she know this place, she withheld her curses. The man could be very dangerous and lash out at her if she misbehaved. .

The only reason she was a bit calm was because she was sure that the man bore no resemblance to the duo who wanted to rape her. Although it was a bit dark at the time of the assault, she still remembered the faces of the two men clearly.

"Excuse me sir, but I don't even know you, neither do I know what you do for a living. I don't even know how I got here. How on earth am I supposed to answer your question?" Erin replied in an exasperated voice.

Darius coughed lightly when he heard her response. His question was indeed out of the blue, and Erin truly didn't know how she got here. He should first explain to her how she got here and calm her down before proceeding to the next step. "You're right. I was indeed in too much of a haste." Darius started. "Allow me to introduce myself." "My name is Darius Reid. I am a third year student of Business Management at Kingston University." Darius said.

Erin eyes widened when she heard Darius' introduction. Kingston University? That was a top university in the country! The young man must be very brilliant to actually get into the university.

Not only was he extremely handsome and rich, he was also very intelligent!

She was certainly impressed at that, and her outlook on Darius improved drastically.

Darius had no idea that his introduction had improved Erin's impression of him. He went ahead to explain the events that had transpired at the bar after she fainted. As Erin listened to Darius explanation, her heart melted. The young man had put himself in danger and fought two strangers he was meeting for the first time just to protect her and make sure that they didn't have their way. It was a very brave gesture, something that she least expected from Darius.

When Darius was finally done with narrating the events, Erin was very touched by his kindness. She also felt very at ease even though she was in an unknown place. This

was the first time she met someone who was willing to go the extra mile for a complete stranger.

“I heard what happened to your former company.” Darius said. Now that Erin had calmed down after knowing how she came here, it was time for him to present his offer once more.

Erin looked at the ground when Darius spoke. The mention of her former company always brought tears to her eyes. She deemed herself as a lady with a very strong mindset, however when the company she puked blood and sweat for crashed, she could not handle the backlash. Otherwise why would she resort to drinking at Eve bar every day? Darius noticed her become dejected when he mentioned her company and felt sympathy for her. It was not easy for someone to overcome such a disaster.

“I really admire your talent. Even with many sponsors and investors pulling out you managed to make the company last an extra three months before its crash. That is something very noteworthy.” Darius praised.

His praises weren't just empty words. Not just anyone could make a company that didn't receive funding from any of its investors or sponsors keep on functioning for an extra three months. It was a feat that required enough experience, grit and hard work to achieve.

This particular achievement impressed Darius greatly. It was why he was so invested in making her his personal assistant otherwise he wouldn't have done so much to hire her.

“It would be a waste of godly talent to let you spend the whole night drinking at a bar.” Darius said. He crossed his legs and poured himself a glass of wine before taking a sip. Erin found it very hard to focus on his words when she saw his gesture. He was just that attractive!

“What do you mean by that?” Erin asked, finally tearing her gaze from Darius' handsome face and focusing on his words. “I'm here to offer you a chance at redemption by working for me.” Darius replied calmly. Erin frowned slightly at his words. Although she was eternally grateful and felt very indebted to Darius for his benevolent acts, she didn't bear any thoughts of working for him. Even though Numbers Int'l was no longer existent now, it was still a formidable company in its prime. She had watched the company grow from scratch and was very attached to it therefore she didn't feel inclined to work for another company so soon. She was about to reject Darius, but Darius abruptly stood up, causing her to swallow her words. Darius left the room and after two minutes he came back with several documents.

“These are the documents and contract regarding the work I want you to do for me. I want you to go through the documents before making a decision.” Darius said as he handed the documents to her.

Erin collected the documents reluctantly. She already made up her mind not to be moved by the contents of the documents, but that resolve was instantly broken after reading the documents for two minutes.

By the time she was done reading the contents of the documents, her eyes were as wide as saucers.

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When he saw her response, Darius smiled triumphantly. It was exactly as he had predicted. He inquired once more, this time in a confident tone.

“So Erin Chrysalis, what do you think about working for me?”

Erin didn't answer him immediately. She was still stunned by the details in the documents and the contract offer that he offered.

The documents contained the list of several companies that were globally acknowledged. As a former vice president of Numbers Int'l, she naturally knew several of the companies mentioned in the documents.

The least of the companies in the documents was worth at least \$30 billion, which was an astronomical sum! Even the nemesis of Numbers Int'l, Nix Inc. was listed in the documents too.

Although she was extremely shocked by the companies listed in the documents, her shock reached a new high when she read the contract details.

The contract stated that she was to help manage the several companies that were listed in the documents. However, her shock largely came from the benefits she would receive if she signed the contract.

A monthly salary of \$10 million, an already furnished apartment, a car of her choosing, and various bonuses and add-ons! It was understandable why Erin was so shocked. Even her former job as the vice president of Numbers Int'l didn't pay her so much money!!

Erin looked at Darius warily; as for him to offer her such a job meant that all the companies that were listed in the documents belonged to him. Just how powerful was

he that he was able to obtain ownership of these companies? She couldn't help but shiver. His identity was too scary.

"I'm sure you have gone over the details by now. I cannot certainly handle all these by myself, which is why I need you to assist me." Darius said.

Erin looked at him even more warily. Since he was so rich and powerful, he would surely be able to get anybody he wanted to work for him. Why did he have to be bent on making her work for him? There was surely more talented people than her that he could choose, so why her?

Erin however did not voice her complaint out. She was planning on rejecting the job offer before, but not anymore. Where else would she find a job that paid so much money? This was a very great opportunity for her. She would be insane to miss out on this. She still had her ailing parents to take care of after all.

"I await your response." Darius reminded Erin.

Erin looked up from the documents before smiling at him. "It'll be my pleasure to work for you, Mr. Reid." Erin answered. This was her ticket to stardom. Although she didn't know what aspect of her intrigued Darius, she was glad to have caught the attention of a big shot. She vowed to dedicate herself to fulfilling all of his demands until he regarded her as indispensable to him.

Darius was very satisfied with her response. After a series of ups and downs, he finally got himself a capable assistant. It was very fortunate as he was resuming lectures the next day. With Erin at the wheel, he could now manage to focus on his education. He needed his degree

after all.

"Alright. Please sign the contract so that we can get started right away." Darius said.

Erin was confused about what he meant, but signed the contract anyway. She passed the contract to Darius after signing it. Darius then put his own signature on the contract before putting the documents away.

"Get dressed. Your clothes are in the wardrobe. They got stained yesterday so I ordered for them to be washed and repackaged." Darius said before exiting the room.

Erin sighed and walked over the luxurious wardrobe. True to his words her clothes looked like they were just bought from a clothing store.

She wore her black gown and styled her white hair. When she took a look in the mirror after she was done, she blushed lightly.

For a 27 year old, she was incredibly stunning. Her white hair made her look more like a movie star and not an office worker. She had flawless skin and an hourglass figure. Coupled with the sexy black gown she wore, she was sure to turn heads wherever she went.

Not long after, the door opened and Darius walked in. He was dressed in casual wears, but his tall and muscular figure with his attractive features made him stand out.

Together the duo made their way to Darius' private garage. When Erin saw Darius' two sports cars, she was stunned.

They looked so expensive!

She was sure that she would have to work for a whole year at Numbers Int'l before she could afford such a car.

Darius got into his Lamborghini, and Erin did the same. Darius then sped out of his garage. After driving for over twenty minutes, he parked neatly at a store. It was a high rated clothing store, one that not just anyone could enter. As they had high price tags on most of their clothes, it was mainly reserved for the wealthy.

The people at the store were all shocked when they saw the Lamborghini drive in. It was by far the most expensive car to visit the store that day.

They were even more shocked when both Darius and Erin alighted from the vehicle. "Is he a movie star? He's so handsome!"

"Look at the lady with him too. They must both be movie stars!"

"Yeah. Otherwise how would they be able to afford such an expensive car?"

Erin was not used to such attention as she rarely had to deal with crowds, so she subconsciously covered behind Darius. Darius thought nothing of it. He had been poor since when he was young, therefore he was already used to people pointing fingers at him. Now that he was rich, the only thing that changed that the expressions on their faces changed from disgust and shun to admiration and envy.

Darius led Erin into the store and started picking out various outfits for her. He had looked into her background and knew that she had sold inajority of her properties to have some little cash, therefore she didn't have much outfits left.

Erin was very touched by his gesture. She knew that everything in this store was very costly, but Darius still brought her here to shop. It was a very heartwarming gesture. She vowed once again to do her very best in her work

Darius, unaware of the loyalty his action just earned him continued picking out various outfits. As his personal assistant, he couldn't allow her to be dressed in subpar outfits. It would only dent the image he had built for himself.

Thirty minutes went by with Darius picking out outfits. Erin joined in from time to time to give her input on his choices. They finally finished selecting various outfits and went to the counter to pay.

## **The Consortium's Heir by Benjamin\_Jnr Chapter 59**

The Consortium's Heir by Benjamin\_Jnr

Chapter 59

Chapter 59 "Erin! Is that you?!"

Darius and Erin both turned to the direction of the voice. Erin in particular was surprised when she heard her name. The voice of the person sounded very familiar to her. She wondered who the person who called her name was. Soon enough the person came into their line of sight. Erin face instantly morphed from one of surprise to irritation when she saw the person. It was none other than her college classmate, Vanessa Floyd.

Vanessa and Erin both attended a highly rated college in their district. Although it was a far cry from universities like Kingston University, which Darius attended, it was still a top university.

Vanessa and Erin were both regarded as the goddesses of their college. Not only were they incredibly beautiful, they were also very brilliant book wise, as they came out with top results after every exam.

However, despite being worshipped by both students and lecturers in the college alike, the two did not get along with each other. Vanessa most especially hated Erin passionately.

The reason was because she was always placed second to Erin. For someone with a very huge ego, she could not accept that she was placed second to Erin. She always thought she was better than Erin in everything, and therefore it was unacceptable for her to be second to her.

Her mindset sparked the beginning of an intense rivalry with Erin. The two had battled it out throughout their course of study in the university and much to Vanessa's displeasure, Erin emerged on top every single time.

When they both graduated from college, they went their separate paths. As Vanessa's father was part of the upper management in a top company, she didn't have a hard time getting a job. That wasn't the case for Erin however.



Vanessa was very happy when she heard that Erin hadn't gotten a job. It proved that she was indeed superior to Erin. Even though her father had pulled some strings for her to get a job, she still started from the most basic rank available

Due to her brilliance, in just one year, she rose from a bottom office worker to become part of the upper management in the clothing company. Pleased with her work input and brilliant ideas which the company benefited greatly from, they transferred her to this branch to be the manager of the store. There were even talks of promoting her to be on the same level as her father in the company.

While all these were happening, Erin was still out searching for a job. When she later got a job, Vanessa naturally knew about it. She didn't place much interest in it because the company Erin chose to work for was a very shabby one. When the company rose to fame however, Vanessa felt threatened once again. Just as Erin was about to surpass her, her company fell and crumbled.

Over two years had passed since they last met each other, but the dislike and rivalry they had for each other was still very much present. As such, the duo glared at each other with unbridled dislike.

Darius looked at the newcomer with curiosity. Vanessa was definitely worthy to be called a

goddess, with flawless skin, an hourglass figure and a very beautiful face. Although she was not as beautiful as Erin, she was very close.

From the way she called Erin's name, he guessed that she probably knew Erin from somewhere. However from the way Erin responded to her presence, he wasn't sure of was if they had a good relationship with each other.

"Fancy seeing you here Erin." Vanessa said; a sickly sweet smile on her face.

"Same Vanessa. It's been a while." Erin replied flatly. "I was really shocked to see you here. I mean anything at this place is super costly; and last I heard you sold majority of your properties. How are you able to shop here?" Vanessa asked. Although it seemed like she was just asking a friendly question; that was far from the truth as anyone could hear the underlying mockery in her tone.

Erin frowned when she heard Vanessa's question. It was obvious that Vanessa had looked into her for her to know that she sold majority of her properties. It annoyed her greatly. If she was alone, she wouldn't mind giving Vanessa a piece of her mind, but now that she was with Darius, her employer, she decided to swallow her response. "I trust that you didn't come here just to talk to me. As you can see, I am very busy, so I'll be taking my leave. Please excuse me." Erin said curtly.

Vanessa's face turned red from embarrassment at Erin's reply. She, who was more successful than Erin was being ignored by her?! She couldn't accept it.

She was about to retort but Erin had already made her way to the counter with Darius. It was then Vanessa noticed Erin wasn't here alone. She was too focused on Erin that she didn't notice that she was here with a person. She tried to get a closer look at the person because his back was turned to her when the person suddenly looked at her.

Vanessa jaw dropped when she saw the person's face clearly. He was extremely attractive! She wondered how Erin managed to get someone so attractive by her side.

"The total cost would be \$2.4 million." The cashier said.

Both Erin and Vanessa sucked in a cold breath when they heard the price.

\$2.4 million?! That was way higher than Vanessa's yearly earning!

As far as Vanessa knew, Erin could definitely not afford that much. How come she now selected several outfits amounting to that much?

Darius was the only one not moved by the high price. He was about to hand over his debit card to the cashier when Vanessa walked up to the counter. The cashier instantly paled from shock when she saw Vanessa.

"Manager Vanessa!"

"Hello Windt." Vanessa greeted the cashier before turning to face Erin.

"Do you take the staff at this store for fools, Erin Chrysalis?" Vanessa demanded in a haughty tone.

Erin frowned at Vanessa's words.

"What do you mean by that?" Erin asked indignantly.

The total sum of the outfits you selected amounts to \$ 24 million, but you can't even afford a \$500 outfit. Do you think you can make fun of us workers at the store." Vanessa asked, annoyance evident in her tone

Erin blushed red in anger and shame at Vanessa's words. How shameless could she be to expose her financial conditions so easily in public? Darius frowned at Vanessa's words. Although he had no idea the two of them shared, he felt that Vanessa had indeed gone too far with her words. "That is no way to speak to a customer. As the Manager of this store shouldn't you be mindful of your words?" Darius said in a reproachful tone. "Customer? A customer that can't even afford the cheapest outfit in

this store is not worthy to be called a customer.” Vanessa said rudely while glaring at Erin

“And if we can afford it?” Darius retorted, glaring at Vanessa as he spoke. He did not like the way she spoke to Erin. She was now his employee, therefore he wanted her to be treated with respect

“Ha! If both of you can afford such a sum, then I will kneel on the floor and apologize for my rudeness!” Vanessa exclaimed. She strongly believed that the duo could not afford such a sum and was only saying such to put on airs.

Darius smiled knowingly before handing the debit card to the cashier. As the cashier collected the card and swiped the card on the machine, Vanessa gazed at the machine intensely. She expected to see a red light showing that the payment had been declined; however what she saw was a green light instead, indicating that the payment was successful.

Erin was not shocked that Darius was able to pay \$2.4 million easily, as she knew his identity. Unfortunately that wasn't the case with Vanessa She had no idea what Darius identity was, which was why she made such a rash bet with him. If she knew his identity she would never make such a rash bet with him!

Darius looked at Vanessa with a confident gaze. He disliked people who looked down on others, therefore he felt glad now that Vanessa was put in her place.

Vanessa expected Darius to ask her to fulfil her promise, and was thinking up excuses on how to avoid such humiliation as she was the manager of the store, but Darius did nothing of the sort. He just collected his card and the outfits he purchased before exiting the store with Erin, leaving a humiliated Vanessa behind.

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## **The Consortium's Heir by Benjamin\_Jnr Chapter 60**

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The rest of the afternoon was spent with Darius buying several things he deemed necessary for Erin.

He contacted the Elle; the manager of Dragon Lord's Imperial Residence and instructed her to direct him to a suitable apartment. Soon enough, Darius phone pinged signaling the arrival of the message. Darius took a quick glance at it before driving to the apartment. The apartment was a two hour drive from Darius residence. It was very

luxurious and stylish. Although it was not as classy as Darius' apartment, it had everything that Erin needed.

Erin's jaw dropped in shock when the agent in charge of handling the house told them the price for the apartment. It was an astronomical sum of \$200 million! It was completely ridiculous.

She was about to persuade Darius to look for a cheaper apartment for her when the agent's phone pinged loudly.

The agent showed the message to the duo, confirming that the transaction was a successful one.

Erin felt unnerved when she saw Darius spending so much money at once, but when she remembered the list of companies registered under his name, she thought otherwise. \$200 million was just a measly sum for him.

Without any delay, he drove to the best car dealership in the district. When the car dealers saw the very expensive Lamborghini drive in, they all sucked in a cold breath. As car dealers, they naturally knew how expensive the car was, especially when everything about the car was customized!

Their eyes shone as Darius maneuvered the car neatly. The only thing they saw were dollar bills. The car dealers started infighting amongst themselves as they knew that whoever sold a car to the owner of the car would earn a lot in commissions.

When Darius and Erin alighted from the car, several of the car dealers were struck speechless by their beauty. It was just like a scene out of a movie, and the car dealers were not wrong to think such as both Darius and Erin looked like movie stars.

By the time they were able to snap out of their mesmerized state, a male car dealer had already approached Darius and Erin.

"Good day kind sir and miss. Welcome to H cars dealership. How may we help you?" the male car dealer greeted in a very polite manner.

Darius was pleased with the car dealer greetings. He was mainly used to hearing scornful and snide remarks whenever he visited places to purchase some things, so such polite greetings were definitely a nice change to him. "Thank you. Can I see the list of available sport cars you have for purchase this moment?" Darius asked just as politely.

"Certainly Sir." The car dealer said as he handed over a handbill to Darius.

Darius went through the list of cars on the handbill. There were a lot of cars in the handbill that caught his fancy, but in the end he opted for the best one on the list. "Take us to this car." Darius said, pointing to a sports car on the handbill."

The car dealer nodded and led the duo to the spot where the particular car was parked. As Erin walked behind Darius, she wondered what car he chose and how much he was going to spend this time on a car for her.

Soon enough after walking for a minute they got to the said spot. When Erin saw the car she involuntarily let out a scream of shock. Meanwhile, Darius had a satisfied look on his face.

Without being told, the car dealer started explaining several details about the car. "This is a Lamborghini Aventador. It is available in black, silver, white and yellow colors. It has a ..."

"How much is it?" Darius asked straightforwardly, interrupting the car dealer's passionate explanation about the engine of the sports car.

Darius could not be bothered to hear more about the car. It was why he chose the best car dealership in the district. If they couldn't live up to their reputation, then they would not have been lauded as the best in the district.

"Aren't you going to take the car for a test drive?" The car dealer asked tentatively. Ever since he started working here, all the customers had always taken the car they chose for a test drive. This was the first time he was meeting a customer who had no interest in such.

"There's no need for that. Just tell me how much it is." Darius said nonchalantly.

"\$710,000 sir" the car dealer said excitedly. If Darius was able to pay for the car outright, then he would earn over \$100,000 from commissions!

"Okay. Bring the white version now. We're taking it." Darius said as he typed on his phone. A few seconds later, the car dealer received a confirmation that the exact amount had been transferred to the company, and his commission paid into his account.

With beaming smiles, he handed over the car keys and the documents of the car for Darius to sign. When they were done with all the paper work, Darius handed the car keys to Erin.

"This is your car now. Due to the nature of your work, you'll need it a lot. It will make your work easier." Darius said.

Erin collected the car keys in gratitude. She was extremely grateful to have a boss as thoughtful as Darius. Not only did he buy her new outfits, he also bought her a new house and a new car.

Darius saw her smiling at him as he handed over the car keys to her. He frowned lightly before speaking up. "I'm not doing all of this for free. I'm doing it to make your work more efficient. The moment I see that you are not performing up to my expectations, you will lose this job." Darius said. He had to make sure that she was aware of this fact. He only spent the amounts that he spent because he deemed it necessary. If she thought that he was doing it for charity then she was grossly mistaken. "I understand Mr. Reid. I am truly grateful for the opportunity you have given me. I would not

dare take it for granted. Rest assured. I will provide you with satisfactory results." Erin replied seriously. She knew how rare the opportunity she got was. There was no way that she would have gotten a job that paid her a monthly salary of \$10 million so easily. This was a once in a lifetime opportunity, and she would be a fool to fumble it. 1

Darius was satisfied with her response. He had finally gotten his personal assistant. With this, he could now freely focus on his studies and other aspects of his life. He nodded lightly at Erin who stood beside her new car, before getting into his own car and driving off, leaving her to her thoughts.