## The Dark Secret of the CEO by Sofia de Orellana Chapter 86

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After the fourth ring, Matías answers with a tired and sleepy voice, he was on duty all night in front of Bowman's club, in a room they rented for that purpose, to refine details of the man's movements and make sure he is there when they go for him, in two days there will be an important deployment.

- -Yes?
- -Mati... it's me.
- Ampolletita, at last you show signs of life. Where are you? How are you?
- -Don't worry, I'm fine, I just had to go, because I knew something terrible...
- -I know she interrupts her and Luz is afraid, because she knows that Matías could have hurt Gerard, then she remembers what Evangeline told her about his health –
- -Mati, wouldn't you have...?
- -Of course not, he told me a while after you left. Now the one I want to give what they deserve is other people, including you.
- -Me? And why? You know I'm the victim, she raped me, then she lied to me.
- -Look, I'm not going to tell you anything I know. I don't deny that at first I wanted to shoot him a couple of times and hang him by his balls in the Empire State Building, but the next day, with a cool head, Dan told me a lot of things.
- -What did he say?
- -I'm not going to tell you. You must listen to Gerard, Luz. That is my advice and the only thing I will say about it.
- I thought you would support me. Surely it's because of male solidarity she tells him annoyed and with obvious sarcasm-
- -No, it is paying honor to truth and justice. I support you, you know I do, but you should give the truth a chance, but the one he has to tell you.
- -I don't want... I'm afraid.

- And I feel fear every day, when I go out to do my job and I don't know if I'll return home in one piece, or end up in a hospital or worse, in the morgue. But I do, because I chose this life.

Matthias, this is different.

-No Light, it's not different. Look... the truth is that love is complicated. You don't choose who you fall in love with and fate, love or whatever it is, can be very bloody.

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- "Cuando te conté de Alfa, me dijiste algunas cosas y te las devuelvo. Gerard está sacrificando muchas cosas por ti, no te conviertas en otro sacrificio para él, si no le vas a dar amor de verdad. Y el amor es confianza, escuchar lo que el otro tiene para decir.
- -Te odio...
- -Lo sé, en especial porque no te esperaste que tu hermano usara tus propios consejos contra ti.
- -Pensaré en lo que me dijiste.
- -Tienes dos días para pensarlo, pero no me des la respuesta a mí, dásela a él.
- -Acabo de hablar con Charlize, pedí hablar con él para regañarlo, pero no quiso. -Luz, ese hombre está destruido. Ni siguiera puede levantar la cabeza.
- -¿Has ido a verlo?
- -Sí, d<u>i</u>gamos que tengo algo pendiente por allí por no decir que es el único que ha conseguido que Charlize coma algo, pero por su trabajo no puede ir tanto como quisiera -. Dos días, Luz. Ahora, cuéntame como está mi sobrino.

La conversación se vuelve menos tensa, pero lo cierto es que Luz no deja de sentirse mortificada por haber actuado de manera impulsiva, Dan le rogó esa noche que escuchara a Gerard.

Cuando corta la llamada, recuerda algunas de las palabras de Gerard, esa noche pasaron más cosas y que ella no sabe. Tal vez pueda llegar a descubrirlas, pero para eso, debe hablar con Gerard.

Kiki sale al jardín y la invita a cenar a afuera, porque desde la ventana de su despacho la vio llorar y caminar desesperada. Además, debe preparar un poco el terreno para aquella visita que llegará en dos días.

El hombre se escuchaba angustiado y, dada su reputación, ella no iba a decir que no. Después de todo, los favores se pagan con favores y que un abogado tan importante como él le deba uno, es una enorme ventaja. Lo que Kiki no sabía, es

que ese favor lo terminará pidiendo para salvar a su hijo, pero de nuevo aquí haciendo spoilers. 1 Luz le dice que la espere un momento para cambiarse por algo más cómodo y abrigado, cada día el tiempo se vuelve más frío y no quiere enfermarse.

Ambas salen de la casa, custodiadas por los tres vehículos que regularmente acompañan a Kiki, más uno del que la mujer no sabe, porque ese el equipo de protección que Gerard contrato para Luz y su hijo, uno que no los ha dejado ni a sol ni a sombra.

Meanwhile, in New York, Gerard smiles because Luz wanted to talk to him, but he didn't want to answer her, because he doesn't feel worthy of her saying a word to him.

– But we have little left, my Little Light. Justice will be done, just as I promised you and as you wanted it to be.

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Two days later, a man in a suit, in a black Audi, ambles into the Williams mansion. Arriving at the door, he is ushered into Kiki's office, where the woman greets him with a smile.

- -I'll ask them to bring Luz, here they can talk without anyone bothering them.
- -I don't want to bother her, I know she's a busy woman.
- -Don't worry, I can handle my business from anywhere in my mansion. I'll send something for you and after that, no one else will interrupt you, until you're done.

The woman walks out elegantly, while Luz walks around her room, looking at the phone, from where she has sent several messages to Rafael, but he doesn't answer them.

Chloe knocks on her door, announcing a visit and that she is waiting for her in Mrs. Williams' office. Luz feels that she is going to give her something, because only one person could want to look for her. With that mix of fear and excitement that she felt when she first met Gerard, she heads downstairs, but she can't hide her disappointment that it's Dan.

-Light – he tells her with a slight nod – -Dan, I'm afraid you're a little <u>far</u> from home, aren't you? – she surrounds him and sits on a comfortable sofa -.

-I am afraid that the circumstances force me, but in reality I am here for loyalty and for a promise that I made to my friend.

Luz stirs uncomfortably and looks out the window, she doesn't want to ask and the truth is that she doesn't need to. Dan pulls up a chair, places it in front of her, and begins to speak.

-About five months ago I convinced Gerard to accompany me to a party, he had been in mourning for five years and I just wanted him to be distracted.

"Very reluctantly he agreed. But there isn't a day that I don't regret doing it.

-Excellent distraction – Luz tells him sarcastically, but Dan denies it and sighs -.

-I need you to listen to me with an open mind, only then can we help Gerard – she finally looks at him and sees Dan's worried face -. That night, Gerard only planned to have a couple of drinks and go home. However, I wanted him to be completely distracted and, due to his oversight, I put this in him – he shows Luz a small capsule and she frowns -. It's not a drug, it's a natural stimulant

that my grandfather used.

"I got Gerard to agree to hang out with one of the local girls, you know, the escorts. I know he wanted to kill me, because my friend had never been with a woman other than Margaret in his life. But I was willing to deal with it." with the consequences after he broke free a little.

"Five years seeing it go out, it wasn't something easy for me – he looks at his hands and then at Luz -. Minutes later I saw him appear, he was pale and excited, he told me to accompany him to the private room and he went crazy when he couldn't find someone. the girl he had abused. That same night, Gerard was going to turn himself in to the police, but I didn't let him.

- "I told him to wait and if the complaint appeared, I would tell myself what happened. I dedicated myself to tracking hospitals and police stations. But the girl never appeared.
- -Because he never filed a complaint or went to a hospital. I didn't want to, I was ashamed.
- -Gerard imagined it, but after all the commotion, he realized that you were drugged, someone was going to do the same as Gerard, only without remorse.
- "He put me to investigate and we found a drug network, we found a series of antecedents and we found the head of the operation and the distributor, even who doped you.

"Rickon Bowman is the son of Henry Bowman, a very dangerous mobster, but lately he has become stupid. He has not found out that for weeks the prosecutor has locked up his son, he got the last information he knows from Rickon, with so that they protect him in jail.

"You know what happens to a rapist in jail?

- -They do the same to their victims Luz answers in a low voice –
- -Worse if he is responsible for twenty-five, you could have been number twenty-six, but you fell into Gerard's arms that night.

"I'm not saying it was luck, but at least that made us investigate and go to give justice to twenty-five girls, who were drugged and abused by that bastard.

-So, they're playing superheroes – she tells him almost mockingly, she wants to cry, but she can't do it now, not in front of him -.

-None of that – he answers with annoyance -. Look, if I'm here telling you all this, it's because I'm making it clear that the only person responsible for what happened to you is me. And don't think it's because of my friendship with Gerard, so that you come back to him running into his arms, because it's clear to me that you won't.

"This is because that man is my brother and I am not going to let you continue to believe that it is only his fault. If you think that it is male solidarity, I tell you that there is a limit, I could lose my license, be convicted, lose my reputation and all that right now is worth a hat, if with that I can save my friend from going to jail...

"Any common criminal would deserve it, of course they do, but he is not a criminal and besides, he has a daughter – Dan begins to shed silent tears and turns around so that Luz can't see -. If I thought that my friend was a living dead for five years, I was completely wrong... now he is much worse than that, hell climbed up to that room and is going to follow him wherever he goes.

Luz looks at Dan and understands everything he is telling her.

Swallowing her pride, letting the tears fall, she walks over to the man and grabs his arm to make him turn around. They stare at each other for a few seconds, until she hugs him, as if he were in the middle of a storm and he was her lifeline, the only one for miles around.

Why didn't you tell me anything? – That is the question that has been going around since he began to tell her all that -.

- For an idiot, I don't know – he walks with her to the sofa and they sit down, without taking their eyes off the Persian rug -. When he found out it was you, one night you had a nightmare, he went crazy. On the one hand, because he couldn't believe that fate was so likely to make him fall in love with that girl he had been looking for so long, and on the other, because he was going to be a father.

"I guess that's why he kept quiet, to try to extend those happy moments with you as long as possible, as a way to save for when the sad ones came, but apparently they weren't enough to keep him strong.

"You should have told me as soon as you found out."

-Would you have reacted differently? – Luz remains thoughtful for a few minutes, until she manages to answer—The truth is that I don't know, maybe yes or maybe not, but it would definitely have been better to find out through her mouth than seeing that mask in her hands. her. Why did she keep her? "Tests," Dan says with a shrug. To torment herself, to not forget what she did to you... I don't know anymore.

- -Dan, I need to go with him, with my princess... I'm dying to hug her.
- -It seems to me that I can help you immediately he tells her smiling –

They get up, go looking for Kiki to tell her that Luz is going back to New York with Dan and she sends to prepare food for the trip, because Luz can't eat anything, according to her.

As soon as they're ready, they head out to Dan's car, but stop when their phones both ring simultaneously.

Dan responds to a very upset Dorothy and Luz to a tired Matías. Both to give the same news:

Gerard turned himself in to the police for rape.

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-Dorothy, calm down please, I don't understand you. -Do you have any screen, television, radio? Whatever is!

Dan tunes in his car radio and freezes when he hears the announcer's words.

"-A few minutes ago, the police received a complaint, coming from the Finnick mansion, (This novel will be daily updtaed at ) pointing out the lawyer Gerard Finnick as the alleged person responsible for charges of rape against a young woman, whose identity has been kept completely confidential. We will keep you informed"

-Sir, you have to come back right now, please...

-Dorothy, let no one issue statements, at the risk of being unemployed... For life! Meanwhile, Luz has moved away from Dan to listen to Matías. -Brother, is something wrong? -It's Gerard, he called to report himself for abusing you. He asked that I be the one to get him out of the house... do you have any idea how it broke my heart to see Charlize look at me with those little teary eyes? "I want you here before the day is over, Luz Méndez, and if you don't... I'm going to come get you! -Don't worry, Dan came to talk to me, I was just going out with him on the way back. -You better, Luz, because I'm not going to let an innocent man go to jail, what he did was wrong, but the context is not what you think.

I know, I know everything...

-See ya.

She hangs up the phone and runs to the car, just as Dan is about to call her.

-We have to go now! – yell at the same time -.

They rush out, both telling each other about their respective calls, and Dan regrets that he made the trip by car instead of Gerard's jet.

The journey that normally takes about four hours, Dan managed to do in three. Luz was able to tell her to slow down, but the truth is that she was going too slow for her.

Her soul, her body and her mind screamed to be with her man, with her little girl, to tell them that everything will be fine, that they will be together and nothing is going to separate them.

As soon as they enter the city, Luz relaxes a bit and looks at him with determination.

- First to the mansion.
- -But, Light, Gerard.

-Look Dan, right now I'm furious with him... because he sent himself to jail, forgetting that he has a six-year-old daughter to take care of and abandoning her like that, without further ado, for serving a sentence that is obvious He has already fulfilled... And not to mention the one that is on the way!

"So first I'll go check on my princess and then we'll go after that fool.

– You say it.

She knows that none of this would have happened if she had listened to him that night, but that "would have" thing doesn't exist. What annoys her is that right now he did something as stupid as accusing himself...

-This man is going to kill me with a disgust.

"I think, from now on, you shouldn't leave him or maybe what he'll come up with(This novel will be daily updtaed at)" he sees a smile on Dan's face and vents his frustration with a snort. And don't tell me you'll think about it, because you're still wearing the engagement ring.

Luz says nothing, because there is nothing to say.

At least not Dan.

They arrive at the mansion and as soon as the car stops, Luz runs inside.

- -Princess! Charlie! She she walks up the stairs and she sees the girl peeking out from her room, like she doesn't believe what she hears.
- -Light? she says with a frown, Luz reaches the top and she takes two steps. Mommy!

And that simple word brings Luz to her knees, so that Charlize throws herself into her arms.

- -My beautiful girl, forgive me, please, forgive me... I shouldn't have left like this, please forgive me tears bathe the hair of the little girl, who has buried herself in Luz's chest, smelling that aroma that calms her down –
- -My daddy... Matías took it he looks at her and makes a pout that melts Luz's heart He broke me and my heart...
- -He was just doing his job, in fact he was the one who called me and told me to come before he went for me.

Are you going to fix everything?

- -Yes my Girl. But first I needed to see how you were, Mati told me you were sad.
- -Not so much anymore, go get my daddy, please. But first-he kneels in front of Luz and caresses her belly-Welcome home, little brother, I'm glad to have you here again.

Dan helps them to their feet, Evangeline comes out of Charlize's room and gives her a huge hug.

- -Evangeline, I need you to tell Rafael that I'm here.
- Raphael? Her she asks him surprised. I thought he was with you, in Baltimore.
- -No, he came back several days ago, for an investigation... Luz looks at Dan and confronts him -. Tell me you don't know anything about him.
- Nothing he answers, taking out his phone -. I already ask, wait in there.

Neither says anything, but the nervousness of the two women can almost be seen, pacing back and forth across the room.

Dan walks in minutes later, hands on his head, and the two face him.

- -He's under arrest... apparently, the prosecutor thought that Rafael is part of the distribution, since they used his agency for that and Rickon doesn't want to say anything about it.
- -Son of...! Luz stops, looks at Charlize who sees her with her arms crossed
- s and a frown from his holy little mother.
- Queens don't say rude things, mommy. -I know and I'm sorry-she looks at Evangeline and takes her by the shoulders-I promise I'll get it out of her.
- But if you haven't even entered the university yet she tells him laughing nervously –
- -If I have something today, it's boiling hormones, so nobody is going to mess with me. Let's go. Luz leaves that room like a waterspout and Evangeline asks Dan not to let her commit murder.

They go from there to the police station where they took Gerard, Luz feels that she wants to kill everyone and she knows who she is going to start with.

As Dan pulls up in front of the building, she begs him to let him talk.

– You can get us into trouble and I couldn't do anything for either of us. -You have an hour to get them out. If at that time the two are not outside, that fifth prosecutor will know who Luz Méndez is.

They walk to the building, Luz feels that she can't take it anymore with so much tension, but this is not the time to pass out, much less escape. She is here to face consequences and she will. Dan approaches an officer and asks for the police chief, a few minutes later a man in his forties arrives and ushers them into his office

- -I am the alleged victim of Gerard Finnick-the officer looks at her and Dan's mouth drops open, because that could sink his friend more—He didn't tell us the name of the victim-the officer tells him-. Therefore...
- -You don't have to look or ask him, I'm the one and(This novel will be daily updtaed at) I'm telling you right now, that man has never touched a hair on me without my consent. In fact -she shows him his hand, where it shows off the engagement ring-, we are engaged, we were going to get married in a few weeks, I went on a trip and something happened while I was away.

-Why does he say that he raped her? He asks suspiciously. -Because he's confused, he'll see...-he tells a somewhat different story of what happened, but trying to keep the main thing, to support the case against Rickon-.

When he finishes, the officer scratches his chin, staring at the desk, then looks at her.

-His love story is pretty crazy, but no way... if there's no victim or complaint, there's no point in continuing here, just take it upon yourself to clear it up with him. I'll have him released. -No! Let me talk to him first, there are things I want to tell him, but I need him there for a few more minutes, why?

The man smiles, because his girlish face is now more noticeable. He nods and calls one of the officers to come with her. A woman escorts her to her cell, where she finds Gerard lying on the bed, with an arm across his forehead and staring blankly at some of the stains on the ceiling.

The officer leaves, she takes a deep breath, gathers her strength to raise the voice that will bring him back to reality and tells him. -Gerard Finnick! What the hell are you supposed to do here?!