

Beyond the Divorce #Chapter 31 - Read Beyond the Divorce Chapter 31

Chapter 31

Chapter 31 An Unexpected Gain

Finally, there was a breakthrough in Johnson's whereabouts. Ivanna's report shocked me. Johnson

frequented Amethyst Apartments, a newly developed upscale apartment community.

This revelation reminded me of that key that never seemed to match anything. I wondered if the key

belonged to that house but found it hard to accept.

I had been with Matthew and endured countless hardships for many years. We had repeated discussions

on finding a nurturing environment for Ava to grow up in. We even talked about getting a bigger apartment

in a good school district.

Yet, he always brushed it off and delayed his decision. However, I discovered he had bought a unit in Amethyst Apartments. Matthew's actions shattered my perception of a man's behavior after infidelity. He

was either utterly clueless or just an animal.

After confirming the location, I dared not act recklessly. Instead, Ivanna arranged for someone to observe discreetly. Once she confirmed the house was empty, she called and urged me to come over.

I came up with an excuse and hurried to Jade Estates. Ivanna led me to that penthouse, a charming and cleverly designed unit. When I saw it, my legs turned into jelly. I stood before the door for what felt like an eternity. Meanwhile, Ivanna cursed at Matthew.

I pulled out the key, my palm sweating. I shakily inserted the key into the lock, and the door swung open. I stood at the entrance in a daze. I wouldn't have moved if Ivanna didn't pull me. We were in my dream unit. It was a place that had cost me all my savings, but it wasn't for me.

"It seems this is where that money went. How foolish was I to let this happen right under my nose? He did. something this big, and I had no idea! I said, my voice filled with bitterness.

'Don't get too worked up. There's a saying, isn't there? You should always beware of the wolf in sheep's clothing. Now isn't the time to lose your cool. We need to figure out how to get it back, at the very least, reclaim the money,'" Ivanna said, exasperated.

She looked around and assessed the situation, "It looks like they've almost completed the renovation. The space isn't that big, probably around 300 square meters. Man, this guy spared no expense.

"All for a woman. He probably didn't even do this much for his mother. Ugh! Chlo, don't get too upset. He'll

get what's coming."

I gazed at the lavishly decorated house, clenched my fist, and said through gritted teeth, "I want the house, the money, everything!"

Ivanna was shocked, then looked at me with determination and clapped. "Exactly, we want the house and the money back! I'll arrange for a search to find out who owns this property. Maybe we can find some trace of that woman!"

I glanced at the house again, then turned and quickly left. After discussing the next steps with Ivanna and getting details about Johnson's recent visits to the house, I knew I had to have a serious talk with him.

Back home, Ivanna handed me a set of makeup products. I looked at her, puzzled. She snorted and said, "If we're putting on a show, we need the full package. We can't let that scumbag notice anything. Otherwise, what's the point?!"

It dawned on me, and I hugged Ivanna. "Thank goodness I have you!"

“Oh, spare me. Weren’t you suspecting me not long ago? Do you think I would ever get involved with that jerk? Go stand up for yourself!” Ivanna patted my back encouragingly.

I nodded and turned away.

Upon arriving home, Matthew looked at the items in my hand and commented, “You went shopping for these? Are you turning into those cliché women who buy these things?”

“Of course! I’m a woman, after all. I can’t let a mistress use my money,” I teased deliberately, “Does it hurt you for me to spend a little? If I’m not spending it, who are you saving up for? Don’t tell me you have a secret lover.”

He smiled fawningly, saying, “Nonsense! I’ll never feel bad when my wife spends. When have I ever felt that way?”

I cursed at him internally when I heard that. I used to be frugal with my money, but I won’t hold back from now on.

Chapter 32

Chapter 32 Transfer of Assets

It was tough to pretend. I admired those couples who stayed together despite the absence of feeling. At

this point, life at home was just a show. Matthew and I were actors, showcasing our acting skills.

I couldn’t bear to be intimate with him since I found that condom. His slightest movement would make

me nauseous. Forget the photos of his ‘adventures,’ which were beyond repulsive.

I’d feel a chill running down my spine whenever he touched me. Thankfully, his attention was no longer on me. He used to bug me about the little things. However, he would stop insisting when I stood my ground.

It was apparent he was growing more distant from me.

These past few days, I had intensified my efforts to examine the data Ivanna had uncovered. I was

surprised the sales figures for these years were impressive, far exceeding my estimates.

However, 80% of those clients were the old customers I had cultivated. Many of them were potentials!

had identified years ago, and they had flourished during these years.

Matthew was merely reaping the benefits, sitting back and doing nothing. He could ascend without effort,

riding on my coattails—no wonder lust took hold of him.

The information he told Johnson to give me was about the recent business ventures he had started in the

past few years. I checked and realized they were all development companies without any physical

presence, speculative businesses sustained by deception.

However, there was something odd in that book. Despite what the financial records showed, the

collection rate wasn't high. Given Matthew's shrewdness, he wouldn't have let these debts accumulate so much risk.

Even with the financial records we had uncovered, there wasn't as much liquidity as there should be. I wondered where the money went but knew there was something fishy going on. Still, I couldn't pinpoint the issue.

After comparing all this information, I learned Matthew had long been hiding assets from me. The so-called asset transfer hadn't just started. I admitted to finding out about it too late, but it was fortunate

that I could still salvage the situation.

Ivanna had good news. She had figured out Johnson's routine these days. She had his daily schedule and

collected more of his secrets!

I was determined to bring him to his senses.

In the morning, Matthew and I headed to the company again. Afterward, I saw Johnson entering

I only took the two keys and quietly left Galar Tower, taking a cab straight to Amethyst Apartments. The workers had nearly completed the renovations and were cleaning the interior.

I dismissed the workers and inspected the house meticulously. It indeed looked splendid. Although it was a bit smaller, the layout was clever and efficient, and the decoration showed attention to detail.

It seemed Matthew had refined his taste. He was no longer the humble youth who lived in a narrow alley, crammed with his family in an old-style building.

In recent days, he had been relatively well-behaved, staying at the company and appearing to work diligently. He was watertight on the surface, leaving no trace of his misdeeds. It seemed second nature to him.

After completing my tour and checking the time, I went downstairs. I sat on the living room's European-

style sofa and awaited Johnson's arrival,

Chapter 33

Chapter 33 Surprise, Surprise

The timing was uncanny as Johnson slowly entered. Immediately after, he exclaimed, "Where is everyone?! Where the hell did they-"

Before he could finish, he became wide-eyed and froze when he saw me sitting on the couch. I smiled and tipped my head at him. "Mr. Hyger."

It took him a while to close his mouth, and he stammered, "M-Mrs. Murphy!"

"Are you surprised to see me?" I continued smiling at him. "Come and sit down. Don't worry. I've already sent the workers away."

“Uh... I need to call the foreman to calculate the work hours first,” Johnson excused himself and rushed out.

“Johnson, calling the foreman isn’t that urgent, is it?” I was calm, but my icy tone echoed throughout the spacious room,

Johnson halted, then turned around in panic and confusion. His lips twitched, and his face paled.

“I thought you might want to listen to what I have to say,” I observed the beads of sweat forming on Johnson’s forehead. “Do my words carry no weight to you anymore, John?”

My words dripped with sarcasm. Back then, Johnson used to rush toward me, calling out “Chlo” from a

distance.

He wiped his face. His expression was pale and heavy as he approached the couch hesitantly.

“C–Chlo! How can that be? You’ve always been like a sister to me. Without you, the Johnson of today wouldn’t have existed!” He chuckled awkwardly.

I nodded, gesturing for him to take a seat.

“I think I’ll stand, Chlo. I didn’t expect you to come! Haha!” Johnson tried to hide his unease.

“Is that so?” I looked at him provocatively, saying, “Shouldn’t I have shown up here?”

I raised an eyebrow and looked around the room, pretending to admire it, “Lovely house. It’s just what I

like.”

Johnson’s eyes narrowed slightly, and he clenched his fists. “Y–Yes, it’s good that you like it.”

“Too bad it isn’t for me, right?” I focused on him again. “So, you need to tell me who Mr. Murphy prepared this for.”

Johnson cleared his throat. “W—What are you talking about, Sis? Mr. Murphy did this for you, of course!”

“Is that so?” I replied, pretending to be appreciative. “Matthew’s always full of surprises. Always doing things for me.”

I chuckled as the words left my mouth. I even blushed.

“Of course. You two have been quite the team.” My words were sharp and witty.

Johnson’s lip twitched as he forced a smile. “As we should be. Oh, I mean, it’s not like that. I—I didn’t mean

it that way.

*Johnson, you’ve been at Tanum Corporation for a few years. Things have changed, haven’t they? |

remember when we used to roam the streets, eating buns and pickles by the roadside. Thinking back, it’s quite different from now.”

I thoughtfully continued, “But I must admit I’m ashamed. Matthew knows how to play the game and treats

you well, right? Hidden bonuses and all. That’s how he gains people’s loyalty.”

“Sis, you shouldn’t say that. I... Johnson wiped the sweat from his forehead.

“Oh, I haven’t seen your wife in a while. How’s she doing? I should visit her sometime!” I casually changed

the topic, “They say pregnancy clouds the mind for three years. Ava’s already four, and I’m still clueless.

huh? Many people around me have moved on. I guess that’s my fault.”

“My wife’s doing great. She’s pregnant.” Johnson wiped his sweaty face again, flashing a sheepish grin,

Thanks for your concern.” 1

“Oh, she’s pregnant? That’s wonderful news! It must be exciting since you’ll be a dad soon,” I feigned

excitement, “How far along is she?”

“Six months. Haha,” Johnson laughed nervously.

“Great!” I nodded. “Well, you better treasure it.”

My tone carried a suggestive playfulness, the hidden meaning clear in my words. My intense gaze shook

Johnson as he stammered, “C—Chlo, I…”

I redirected my gaze and asked, “Who’s the new woman in Matthew’s life?”

The sudden question caught Johnson off guard, and he stood up from the couch. “Chlo, I don’t know!”

“You… don’t… know?” I emphasized each word, my expression growing colder.

Chapter 34

Chapter 34 A Tense Confrontation

“Chlo, I honestly don’t know. M—Mr. Murphy has someone, but I don’t know who she is.” Johnson’s confidence wavered as he spoke, “M—Matthew, ho…”

“You know he has another woman, yet you claim not to know who she is? Johnson…” I trailed off.

“Chlo, I swear I don’t know. He’s never brought her around. I’ve only seen her twice from behind,” Johnson’s confession left me conflicted. Either Matthew was highly cautious, or Johnson was lying.

However, there were more pressing matters on my mind. I suppressed my frustration, lowered my intensity, and changed the subject, “I need you to do something for me.”

As expected, Johnson seemed to relax. He sighed in relief and surrendered, "Sure! Chlo, just tell me what you need. I'm all in."

"I want the concealed financial reports and the recent list of major clients," I said firmly.

Johnson froze at my request. He was in disbelief. "Chlo..."

"Why? Is there no such thing?" I curiously questioned.

"Chlo, there's no such thing. I've shown you all the annual reports." Johnson's expression was bitter as he

tried to convince me, "Please, don't put me in a tough spot. I wouldn't lie to you. I've been closer to

Matthew these years, but it is all for your company's sake. I swear I'm loyal."

I coldly remarked, "Maybe it's him you're loyal to, not me."

Johnson fell silent, and I observed him. He seemed at a loss as I moved my fingers slightly. Suddenly, a

mix of moans and profanities echoed throughout the room as I showed my phone screen to him.

Johnson was shocked when he saw the video. "Chlo, how could you?!"

"Deliver what I need to my office tomorrow. I want to see fund flows, summaries, details—anything

Matthew doesn't want me to see. Be warned, no trying to hide or deceive me with fabricated data. Also, if

Matthew even suspects anything, you'll bear the consequences."

I concluded my speech, then turned and left without another word.

"Chlo? Chloel" Johnson's voice almost turned desperate.

After leaving the penthouse, I felt a weight lift from my chest for the first time in days. I called Ivanna and reminded her, "Don't forget to look into that house's property rights."

“Chlo, did you think I’d forget? I’ve already started digging, but that guy’s clever. He registered it under

“Melanie?” Disdain washed over me. “It seems like his little sister has some use after all, a convenient shield for when he needs one. He’s quite cunning. I’m the outsider in his eyes.” E

“Exactly! Matthew’s nothing but a scumbag. I thought using his sister might lead us to a breakthrough, a way to unveil that schemer,” Ivanna echoed my frustration, “Are you done on your end?”

“Yes.”

“Did he confess?” Ivanna’s impatience was apparent.

“No, he claims he never met Matthew’s side piece,” I confessed with a hint of discouragement.

“That guy is too secretive. Now I’m even more curious about that vixen’s identity. I wonder if she’s an angel or a devil in disguise!” Ivan exclaimed in frustration, “Do you believe Johnson?”

I scoffed. “It doesn’t matter who that woman is now. What’s important is figuring out just how much money Matthew has. I’ve been such a fool for believing in him all these years.”

I took the elevator up after returning to the company building. When the doors opened, I saw Matthew charmingly escorting a client. It was a woman, no less.

Chapter 35

Chapter 35 A Predicament

When I exited the elevator, Matthew froze. Immediately after, he reverted to his usual self and smiled. He exchanged a few words with the woman and sent her to the elevator without introducing her to me.

I couldn’t help but take a second look at the woman. She seemed elegant, intellectual, and full of dignity. Our eyes met, and the woman grinned at me as the elevator doors closed.

“Who was that?” I asked.

“A client,” Matthew simply answered, then held shoulders. “Where’d you go?”

It seemed he still cared about my whereabouts. His question revealed that he knew I was out. I smiled. and glanced at him mischievously. “I won’t tell you.”

On the other hand, Johnson didn’t return to the company building until it was time to get off work. The

following day, he secretly passed me the information I asked for. The look on his face was indescribable.

“Chlo I... Please don’t make things too difficult for me. I...”

I knew what he wanted to say. He feared I would report his misdeeds and Matthew would know about his betrayal.

“That depends on what you do. You can go now,” I said, not promising anything.

Suddenly, I thought of the woman from yesterday and quickly called Johnson back. “Help me ask about

the woman who came to look for Matthew before he got off work yesterday. I want her name and phone

number.”

Upon hearing that request, Johnson turned and left helplessly.

I was racing against time to find out the truth. Meanwhile, that woman wasn’t sitting idle either. When I

ignored her texts, she continued messaging me on WhatsApp to harass me.

It seemed Matthew was starting to suspect something, too. Maybe the woman had told him something for him to start paying more attention to me. I was confident Johnson wouldn’t say anything.

When Matthew returned that afternoon, he asked Johnson and me to visit his office. Matthew gave us

some clients’ information and told me to study them before giving my opinions.

I had a hunch he was trying to test me. I took a closer look at those clients and found no issues with their

qualifications. Some were massive companies.

After reading all the information, I called for Johnson.

He snuck into my office like a thief. I looked at him with ridicule and asked, "Seriously? Is this necessary? Why are you sneaking in here like that?"

"Chlo, don't make things difficult for me. There's surveillance everywhere, and I keep coming here. Matthew will get suspicious sooner or later!" Johnson spoke bitterly.

I inwardly cursed him countless times, realizing that Matthew was beyond redemption. He was treating

me like a criminal. I rolled my eyes and said, "You can tell him I asked you for a client's information.

That's the truth, after all."

"No, I won't say anything. You can trust me, Chlo." Johnson misunderstood me and quickly reassured me, scratching his head anxiously.

"I mean it. Do as I say!" I had already figured out that Matthew's data was a smokescreen.

Johnson hesitated before finally telling me the truth about the situation. He explained that those precious

clients were solely under Matthew's control. Afterward, I instructed him on what to say to Matthew.

When I got home that evening, I discussed the clients with Matthew to seek his opinion and share my thoughts. He appeared genuinely attentive. I even mentioned that ATL Empire had the most potential.

Johnson had given me the lowdown on them privately. He said it was the least likely major client to secure.

I intended to put Matthew at ease by doing all this. I played the same naive Chloe Tanum, who enjoyed chasing potential stocks, even if they were challenging. Of course, there was another reason for my choice.

The next day, that company held a bidding meeting. After a selection process, Tanum Corporation made it through. I volunteered to give it a shot, and Matthew assigned what he referred to as an assistant to accompany me.

However, I knew what he was up to. The company was in the heart of the city's business district. A multinational corporation owned the entire building, as rumor had it. Upon entering the towering structure, I finally understood why Johnson said it was an improbable deal to strike.