Chapter 10

**Scene: MC’s suite. Dining room. Day.**

MC

“When I entered my room, something didn’t feel right.”

MC

“So I looked around and realized that the ring my grandfather gave me is missing!”

MC  
“Stefan and I have been looking for it all night. But it’s gone!”

I explain to Bullet and Zachary what happened the night before.

MC

“And I couldn’t have misplaced it because I just always leave it by my bedside table.”

Bullet

“Nigel could have taken it.”

**Choice: What do I say?**

1. *“Do you really think he did?”*
2. *“No, Bullet, he couldn’t have.”*

**1.**

MC

“Do you really think he did?”

Bullet

“Who else was here last who’s less than scrupulous?”

Zachary

“May I point out that Nigel was with us the whole time?”

MC

“That’s right. He didn’t have the chance to do it.”

**Recombine with main dialogue**

**2.**

MC

“No, Bullet, he couldn’t have.”

Bullet

“But he was the only here who could have done it.”

Zachary

“Yes, but Nigel was with us the whole time.”

MC

“Exactly.”

**Recombine with main dialogue**

**BACK TO MAIN DIALOGUE**

Stefan

“Wait a minute.”

Stefan

“That noise I heard last night while we were eating.”

Stefan

“What if Nigel was just creating a diversion when he came to us? Kendra could have snuck in while we were busy.”

Bullet

“That would explain the noise. Remember, guys, Nigel was here last night for no particular reason.”

(Bullet has a point.)

(I don’t remember Nigel’s reason why appeared at my suite for no reason at all.)

MC

“If you put it that way, then Stefan’s theory makes a lot of sense.”

Stefan

“This is Kendra creating more trouble for you, Lady [namae].”

MC

“What should we do, then?”

Stefan

“We must tread carefully here. We can’t let the Chairman know.”

Bullet

“But if Kendra has the ring, what’s stopping her from informing Master Brandon that Lady [namae] already lost it?”

MC

“What if she already told my grandfather?”

Stefan

“It’s possible.”

Zachary

“Stefan, what do you think we should do?”

Stefan

“We really don’t have a lot of options.”

Bullet

“I’ll give you our options.”

Bullet

“One, we could play good cop/bad cop on Nigel and make him squeal.”

Bullet

“Two, we could sneak into Kendra’s room and try to find where she’s hidden the ring.”

Bullet

“And three, you, little miss, can confront Kendra about it.”

MC

“Door number two can potentially blow up in our faces if we get caught, so that’s out of the question.”

MC  
“I’d like to avoid having a confrontation with Kendra as much as possible so I think we should go with door number one.”

Stefan

“Then good cop/bad cop it is.”

Bullet

“Let’s go get Nigel!”

Scene: MC’s suite. Living room. Day.

That afternoon, Bullet lures Nigel to my suite with a promise of more cup noodles.

It’s either he’s innocent or he’s just so gullible that’s why he did not even suspect that this could be a trap.

(Or maybe he’s just addicted to cup noodles now.)

Nigel

“Ah, my lady. Bullet told me you have more cup noodles for me?”

Stefan

“There are no more cup noodles, Nigel.”

Zachary

“I ate them all.”

Bullet looks at Zachary weirdly.

Bullet

“What Zachary meant to say is, where’s the ring?”

Nigel

“The ring? W-what ring?”

Nigel laughs nervously.

MC

“My father’s ring, Nigel. Did Kendra steal it?”

Nigel

“I-I don’t know anything about—”

Nigel

“I think I’m going to go now.”

Bullet

“Oh, no you don’t!”

Stefan and Bullet moves to grab Nigel to prevent him from escaping.

Bullet

“You look about as guilty as a Saturday morning cartoon villain.”

Stefan

“You better—”

Kendra

“What in the world is going on here!?”

Kendra

“Unhand my butler.”

Stefan and Bullet let Nigel go.

Kendra

“Explain yourselves or the Chairman will hear about this.”

I step forward.

MC

“My father’s ring is missing, Kendra.”

Kendra

“And you think my butler stole it? You are unbelievable. Do you even have any proof?”

My butlers exchange glances.

MC

“Can you, please, stop acting all innocent? We both know you have it.”

Kendra looks insulted by my pronouncement.

Kendra

“How dare you? Where do you get the audacity to accuse me of a petty crime? I am a Seymour.”

Stefan

“Mistress, I think this has gone far enough.”

Kendra

“You shut your mouth, I am not talking to you.”

MC

“Let’s stop this, Kendra. I don’t want to fight anymore. Just give me back my ring. Please.”

Kendra

“I don’t have your ring! But you know what, just this once I’m going to let this whole nabbing my butler and accusing me slide.”

Kendra

“You’re already going to be in so much trouble when Grandfather finds out that you’ve lost his most precious family heirloom.”

Kendra

“Let’s go, Nigel.”

Kendra storms out of the living room to leave. Nigel gives me an apologetic look before following his mistress.

Bullet

“We should have gone for door number two.”

Bullet

“We could still follow them. I’m sure we’ll discover something if we spy on them. It’s highly likely for Kendra to gloat.”

**Premium Choice: What should I do?**

1. *Let them get away.*
2. *Follow them and spy on them.*

**1.**

MC

“It’s all right, just let them go.”

MC

“We don’t have any proof.”

Bullet

“But we’re not going to have any proof if we don’t investigate.”

Stefan

“If Kendra really stole that ring, she wouldn’t keep it laying around her bedroom.”

Zachary

“And if we get caught, she can use it against us and get us into more trouble with the Chairman.”

MC

“I agree.”

MC

“I guess right now all we can do is wait for the axe to fall.”

**Recombine with main dialogue**

**2.**

MC

“Bullet, come with me.”

Bullet

“Yes!”

Stefan

“My lady, I would advise against this.”

Zachary

“It’s not a good idea.”

MC

“You can stay here if you want. Bullet and I are going.”

I step onto the elevator, Bullet trailing behind. Stefan and Zachary follow suit.

**Scene: Main mansion. Hallway. Day.**

When we reach the hall, Kendra and Nigel are nowhere to be found.

MC

“Which way did they go?”

Bullet

“I think we should spread out. Stefan and Zachary, you two take the east wing.”

Bullet

“Little miss and I are going to check the wing to Kendra’s suite.”

Stefan and Zachary disappears into the eastern corridor, as Bullet leads the way to Kendra’s suite.

**Scene: Hallway to Kendra’s suite. Day.**

As we round a corner, we stop in our tracks as we spot Kendra and Nigel standing by the elevator to Kendra’s suite.

We back away and hide behind the corner.

Nigel

“So are you even going to tell me what you did?”

Kendra

“I didn’t do anything.”

Nigel

“You sent me there last night and told me to give them a hard time or taunt them.”

Nigel

“And then the next day, I’m being interrogated for a missing ring.”

MC

“It’s just a coincidence, Nigel. It’s got nothing to do with my orders last night.”

Nigel

“No, you sent me there as a diversion. So you can sneak in and steal that ring.”

Kendra

“I did no such thing.”

Kendra

“But let’s just say that, hypothetically, I did stole the ring, why would anyone immediately assume that I did it?”

Kendra

“Do any of you have sufficient proof?”

Nigel

“The moment those butlers started to interrogate me, I knew it was you. Because you’re Kendra.”

Nigel

“These games have got to stop.”

Kendra

“This is not a game, Nigel. It’s payback.”

Kendra presses the button to the elevator.

Nigel

“I really don’t get why you try so hard to be a bitch. I know you’re a good person.”

The elevator doors open and they both enter.

Just then, Stefan and Zachary arrives.

Stefan

“There’s no sign of them in the east wing.”

Zachary

“Have you had any luck?”

Bullet

“Well, apparently, Nigel isn’t complicit in Kendra’s plan to steal the ring.”

MC

“And Kendra didn’t confess to the crime, either.”

Bullet

“We got zilch. Nada.”

MC

“I guess all we can do now is wait for the axe to fall.”

**Recombine with main dialogue**

**BACK TO MAIN DIALOGUE**

**Scene: MC’s suite. Bedroom. Day.**

That afternoon, I heard a knock on my bedroom door. Stefan steps in holding his mobile phone.

Stefan

“It’s a call from the Chairman.”

I am reluctant to take the call, but not taking it will only make him suspicious that something is wrong.

(Or does he already know?)

I take the phone from Stefan’s hand.

MC

“Grandfather?”

Grandfather

“Is it true?”

(He knows!)

Grandfather

“Did you lost the ring?”

(It was stolen.)

But I can tell him that, not without damning evidence.

MC

“Yes, it’s missing. I’m sorry grandfather.”

Brandon

“My god, [namae]. Have I not impressed upon you how valuable that ring is?”

MC

“I know, Grandfather. But I didn’t mean to lose it.”

Brandon

“That’s completely unacceptable. Not even a month ago, you disappoint me with your behavior at the gala. And now this?”

Brandon

“You fail once again, [namae].”

Brandon

“What will your father say?”

I am in tears.

MC

“I’m so sorry!”

Brandon

“Your apology isn’t going to cut it this time, [namae]. You can forget about your charitable foundation.”

MC

“But, Grandfather—”

Grandfather terminates the call abruptly.

I break down in tears and dissolve into sobs.

(What am I going to do now?)

Stefan wraps his arms around me, providing emotional support.

I’m thankful that Stefan is there. But I know someone who could really give me comfort at a time like this.

(I wish my grandmother were here.)

(I could really use her advice right now.)

That’s when an idea forms in my head.

I pull away from Stefan and walk out into the hall. Stefan trails closely behind.

Stefan

“My lady, where are you going?”

Bullet and Zachary are there.

Bullet

“Little miss, hold up!”

Zachary

“My lady.”

I stop and and turn to them.

MC

“I’m going to see my grandmother. Don’t even try to stop me.”

I head for the elevator.

Stefan

“My lady—”

Bullet

“Let’s just go with her, Stefan.”

Zachary

“My lady, wait for us!”

**Scene: Inside the Breadmaker on Baker Street. Night.**

We took the chopper to the private airfield near Baker Street, where a car was waiting to bring us to our bakery.

When I step inside our bakery and smell the freshly baked breads, my spirits are instantly lifted.

I am delighted to see that we still have a lot of customers this time of the night.

Grandma Irene

“[namae]?”

MC

“Grandma Irene!”

I hurry over to her side and give her a warm embrace.

MC

“I’ve missed you so much!”

Grandma Irene

“I’ve missed you, too. What are you doing here?”

She tries to get a good look at me.

Grandma Irene

“My, look at you! You are more beautiful than ever.”

I twirl for her.

MC

“You like it?”

Grandma Irene

“Very much.”

MC

“Grandma, I am so happy to see that business is booming!”

Grandma Irene

“Yes, it is, [namae]. Thanks to you and the upgrade from S Group.”

**Choice: What should I say?**

1. *“And the reason for the upgrade is so that you won’t have to work anymore.”*
2. *“I want nothing but the best for you, Grandma.”*

**1.**

MC

“And the reason for the upgrade is so that you won’t have to work anymore.”

MC

“Aren’t you supposed to be at your new house resting?”

Grandma Irene

“Well, you know me, I get bored easily when I’m doing nothing.”

MC

“Oh, Grandma. You should think about your health and try not to work too hard.”

**Recombine with main dialogue**

**2.**

MC

“I want nothing but the best for you, Grandma.”

MC

“But shouldn’t you be at home resting?”

Grandma Irene

“You know, [namae], old habits die hard.”

MC

“Well, you’re not getting any younger. You have your health to consider these days.”

**Recombine with main dialogue**

**BACK TO MAIN DIALOGUE**

Grandma Irene

“Oh, don’t worry about me. I’m better now. Plus, I have help.”

Stefan

“Lady [namae].”

Stefan, who is now holding Nigel by the collar of his suit, catches my attention.

(?!?)

MC

“What’s—”

Stefan

“I saw him spying on us from outside. Apparently, Kendra had him follow us.”

Bullet

“What do you want us to do with him, little miss?”

**Choice: What should I say?**

1. *“Beat him up.”*
2. *“Let him go.”*

**1.**

MC

“Beat him up.”

Bullet pulls back his fist, about to land a blow Nigel’s stomach. Nigel recoils, expecting to get hit.

MC

“No, wait! I’m just kidding!”

MC

“Jeez! Bullet. Did you really think I was going to let you beat him up?”

MC

“Everyone, relax. You guys need to chill.”

MC

“Stefan, just let him go.”

Stefan complies and releases his hold on Nigel.

Nigel

“Thank you, my lady.”

Nigel straightens up his suit, trying to regain his composure.

MC

“Are you all right?”

Nigel

“I’m fine, my lady. Thank you.”

**Recombine with main dialogue**

**2.**

MC

“Stefan, just let him go.”

Stefan

“But, my lady…”

MC

“Calm down. He’s just under orders. He didn’t do anything wrong.”

Bullet

“Not yet.”

MC

“Stefan, just let Nigel go. Please.”

Stefan releases Nigel from his grasp. Nigel straightens up his suit and try to recompose himself.

Nigel

“Thank you, my lady.”

**Recombine with main dialogue**

**BACK TO MAIN DIALOGUE**

Grandma Irene who’s been watching the exchange with interest steps closer.

Grandma Irene

“[namae], who are these strapping young men?”

MC

“These are my butlers, Grandma. Stefan, Bullet and Zachary. And that’s Nigel, my cousin’s butler.”

Nigel

“Nigel Sparks, at your service. You must be Lady [namae]’s grandmother, Irene. A pleasure to meet you.”

Nigel

“I love your pastries. I’d kill for them.”

Grandma Irene

“Well, wait till you sample my cooking.”

Grandma Irene

“Now why don’t we all go to our house and where we can all share a nice home-cooked meal.”

Zachary

“May inquire as to the possibility of cup noodles being involved in this little excursion?”

Grandma Irene

“Why does he talk like that?”

MC

“He’s British. And he’s addicted to cup noodles.”

Grandma Irene

“Oh, you can eat all the cup noodles you want at home.”

Zachary can barely contain his excitement.

Zachary

“I’ll turn the car around.”

And he’s gone in a flash.

Scene: Bennett Home. Dining room. Night.

We all gather at the dining room of my grandmother’s new house, where she serves us a home-cooked meal.

MC

“I miss your cooking, Grandma.”

Grandma Irene

“And I miss you eating all of it.”

Grandma Irene

“Dig in, everyone.”

Nigel who’s already wolfing down his food, did not need to be told.

Grandma Irene

“So, which one of you is going to marry my granddaughter?”

Zachary turns red in the face.

Bullet almost choked on his food.

Stefan empties his glass of water in one gulp.

Nigel

“I’ll marry your granddaughter if her cooking is as good as yours.”

I didn’t know if I wanted to laugh or be embarrassed at what Nigel just said.

Nigel

“Heck, I’ll marry you, Mrs. Bennett, if she doesn’t want to marry me.”

Grandma Irene

“Oh, you are such a smooth talker, Nigel.”

Nigel

“Your cooking is that good, Mrs. Bennett.”

As Nigel continues to eat his meal, he starts to get teary-eyed.

Nigel

“As a matter of fact, it’s the best tasting food I’ve ever had since—”

Nigel

“This reminds me of the time when I was a child when my late grandmother would cook for me.”

Nigel starts to cry.

Nigel

“Oh, Grandma! I have disgraced you for all the things I did. I can’t take it anymore. I need to make a confession.”

We listen in rapt attention at this surprising development.

Nigel

“It really is Kendra. She stole the ring!”

Bullet

“I knew it!”

Stefan

“Nigel, how can you let her do that?”

Zachary, who has just started eating his cup noodles, mumbles incoherently.

Nigel

“I’m sorry. Please, forgive me.”

Nigel

“I just can’t take Kendra’s cruelty anymore. But if I didn’t do as I was asked, I would lose my job.”

Stefan

“You always have a choice, Nigel.”

Nigel

“With Kendra, it’s different.”

Nigel turns to me with pleading eyes.

Nigel

“But believe me, Lady [namae], when I say that there is still good in Kendra.”

Bullet

“That’s impossible.”

Nigel

“You only need to hear her story to understand her.”

**Premium Choice: What should I say?”**

1. *“What’s her story?”*
2. *“I don’t need to hear her story. I just need the ring back.”*

**1.**

MC

“So what’s her story?”

Nigel

“Mistress Kendra, just like you, was orphaned when she was still an infant. She never got to know her parents.”

Nigel

“Growing up as next in line to Master Errol as the successor of S Group, she was raised in an overprotective environment.”

Nige

“She wasn’t allowed to interact with other children. She grew up knowing only her tutors and mentors in protocol training.”

Nigel

“She was practically raised by a nanny who wasn’t capable of giving her the same love as she would get from her real mother.”

I suddenly feel bad for Kendra.

(I may have lost both my parents, but I had my grandmother who raised me as her own and showered me with love.)

I glance at my grandmother.

(I will be forever grateful for her.)

Nigel

“The Chairman witnessed his son battling depression for years.”

Nigel

“He thought that it was his upbringing that made him emotionally weak.”

It saddens me to hear that my father’s own father thinks that he’s weak.

Nigel

“So he decided it will be necessary to raise Mistress Kendra in such a harsh environment to toughen her up.”

MC

“That’s terrible.”

(It’s no wonder, Kendra is the way she is.)

Nigel

“Well, the Chairman didn’t want the next heir of S Group to be weak.”

Nigel

“Mistress Kendra grew up with a lot to prove to her grandfather, trying hard to earn the Chairman’s approval and love.”

Nigel

“She sacrificed a lot to prove herself worthy of becoming leader of S Group someday.”

Nigel

“But when you arrived, Lady [namae], Kendra saw that all her efforts and sacrifices were for nothing.”

Bullet

“Hence the retaliation that my lady suffered at the hands of your Mistress.

MC

“It’s okay, Bullet.”

MC

“I understand now, Nigel. After hearing what she’s been through all her life, I know now why she’s like that.”

MC

“But sometimes it’s about choice. She made a conscious decision to do these things. And she can also make a decision to change.”

Nigel’s face falls, regret evident in his expression.

MC

“The same goes for you. You can still make things right.”

MC

“We need to get that ring back, otherwise those poor orphans won’t have someone to help them with their education.”

**Recombine with main dialogue**

**2.**

MC

“I don’t need to hear her story, Nigel.”

MC

“I just want to get the ring back.”

Nigel

“There’s still good in her, I know it.”

Nigel

“All these antics and scheming, it’s just the result of a lifelong struggle to gain the love and approval of a ruthless leader.”

MC

“You mean, my grandfather?”

Bullet

“Watch your tongue, Nigel.”

Nigel

“That’s the way I see it. Mistress Kendra wouldn’t be like this, had she been raised in a loving environment.”

MC

“Nigel, we can’t change the past. But you both can change now for the better. It’s only a matter of choice.”

MC

“And right now, we need to get that ring back. Otherwise, I wouldn’t be able to help those orphans.”

**Recombine with main dialogue**

**BACK TO MAIN DIALOGUE**

Nigel

“As much as I would like to help you, I can’t. I don’t know where she keeps the ring.”

Nigel

“And I would lose my job if she finds out I confessed to you.”

MC

“Well, I wouldn’t want you to lose your job, Nigel.”

MC

“But what are we going to do?”

Grandma Irene

“From what I hear about this Kendra, it seems like she never received love as a child.”

Grandma Irene

“The children in their world, they grow up too fast. They have to live up to the expectations of their parents and the public.”

Grandma Irene

“And it was something your mother never wanted for you. That’s why she thought it would be best if you were raised here.”

MC

“I am thankful that I was raised by you, Grandma.”

Grandma Irene

“And look how you turn out.”

I smile at her lovingly.

(She really is my rock.)

(And I don’t know what I would do without her.)

Grandma Irene

“Anyway, all this talk about this missing ring. It reminds of something that your mother gave me. Wait here.”

After a few minutes, Grandmother returns and we are all bewildered with what she showed us!

*Read more to find out…*