

## Chapter 41

“Does it matter if my decision is influenced or not?” “It does matter, Victoria. It really does. We were literally cool until all of today’s event.” “I don’t know how he did it but you and I both know that he influenced Bessie coming into our midst. I have partnered with you in business-related matters, you of all people should know how I feel when it comes to someone trying to cheat me or override me just because he has certain privileges that I do not have.” “I promise I wasn’t going to let you go. Please do not push me away, Vee. I have become so fond of you that I do not think I can do this life thing without you. “Let me prove to you that you do not need any other man in your life. You are not going to regret giving me a chance, I promise.” Vicky thought she was done crying. She had no idea when fresh tears started welling up in her eyes again. She hated the way she was feeling and she hated the attention she was getting even more. Heaven knew that she never prayed for this.” “You have spoken so well but my decision is still going to be the same.” “No Vee, please. You can’t do that to me.” He interrupted, pleading. “You can’t tell me what to do or what not to do and neither can anyone influence my decision. I am a grown woman and for sure, I know what I want.” “I apologize if my decision makes you feel uncomfortable but this is what I want and you have to respect it regardless of who I choose to be with” Ashton was about to say something but she interrupted him. “It is honestly getting tiring going back and forth with you on this. Please do not let me lose the mutual respect I have for you. You are amazing and you definitely deserve to be with someone that matches your energy.” She sniffled, “Please don’t reach out to me unless it is work-related. Thank you. She said, after which she ended the call immediately, not waiting for any form of response from him. The moment Vee ended the call, She put the phone aside, buried her face in her hands with her elbow leaning against the kitchen counter, crying her eyes out all over again. This time around, She felt even more terrible. Before Oscar showed up at her place earlier, a part of her was still considering giving Ashton a chance in her life but after what happened with Oscar a while ago, she honestly had no idea if she would be capable of being with another man or submitting to someone else. In as much as she hated herself for going too deep and too far with Oscar, even if she was lying to everyone, there was no way she could be lying to herself too. She was too stunned and angry about the fact that the connection between them was still there after all these years of being apart. Her starved desires took control over her mind and she had no idea what she was doing anymore. Thinking about it now, she could not help but feel so stupid about letting down her guard so much before Oscar. Vee started to feel even more terrible as she unconsciously replayed the last scene with Oscar in her mind, where he blasted her, before angrily storming out of her place. She shed more tears, trying to convince herself that she should not feel any more terrible as she did what was right. The best thing right now was to stay away from Oscar, as well as other men, literally to push everyone away and just be in her tiny corner. Vicky had no idea how long she was lost in her thoughts, crying, but she snapped back to reality when the sound of her phone ringing came through. “Leave me the hell alone, Ash! I told you to let me be!!!” She literally raised her voice at him, not even bothering to look at the caller ID. “Are you okay?” The worried but familiar voice came through, prompting Vicky to remove the phone from her ear. She checked the caller ID, saw who it was, and heaved a deep sigh, wiping tears off the corner of her eyes with her fingers, before putting the phone back to her ear

“Isn’t your phone meant to be off? Are you not meant to be in the air right now?” “Are you fine? Who is Ash? Is everything okay with you?” Gabriel asked, ignoring his Sister’s question. “What do you mean? Of course, I’m fine.” “Stop lying to me, Vicky. I can hear it from your voice that you are not doing okay. You literally just raised your voice over the phone. I think it was four years ago that I last saw you in that mood. And who the hell is Ash?” “Ti fine, Gabe. I think I am coming up with a cold. That is why my voice is like that. And Ash is nobody. Just a random person who just keeps disturbing me with calls at odd hours. How are you? Are you not meant to be somewhere in the sky right now?” Chapter 413 I think I need to take a step back with my frequent trips.” “Why? What’s wrong?” Vee asked her elder brother. “Because it has made you distant from me. You are no longer sincere to me.” “I don’t understand, what do you mean?” Vee said, the confusion going totally

unnoticed in her voice. "Oscar was with you, wasn't he?" Vicky's heart started beating very fast against her chest. "What...what...what are you talking about?"