

20. THE SILENT KILLER

Sienna had been in the hotel room for three days. She had filled up a notebook with her story. She knew that there was more to come. Everything was starting to fall in place. But there were still some inconsistencies. Sienna needed to find out why Dale hadn't come to see her sooner. He must have known what was going on. She needed to talk with him. But she didn't have a vehicle. She couldn't have him see her all the way in Atlanta. Either Warren or Jerry watched her every move. She needed to sneak out somehow.

Sienna ended up climbing out the bathroom window. She called him from a pay phone. He picked her up on the side of the road and took her to a nearby bar.

"No one was following you?"

"Not at all."

The months had created a different Dale. There weren't even any attempts at affection.

"I feel that I helped you out. That at least should be a consideration."

"Are you asking me for money?"

"I don't know what I'm asking you for."

"Well, I can't put the words in your mouth?"

"That never stopped you before."

"Has your hard-edge softened after a few months with the loving wife?"

He didn't have a comeback. He was a little dumbfounded. He had lost all his momentum since she was in hiding. Now he wasn't sure what he should do.

"If you were going to come here expecting money, you should have been clearer on your plan. Now, you're like a little dog with his tail wagging between his legs."

He still didn't know what to say.

"So why didn't you say anything when you saw me at the gas station?"

"We were supposed to pretend that we didn't know each other."

"You gave me a dirty look?"

"You surprised me."

"Did you try to shoot out my bedroom window?"

"What bedroom window?"

"You didn't know that I was staying at Lynette's?"

"Lynette. Jack's cousin. You were there?"

"I thought you knew. I thought that everyone knew that I was staying there since the accident. That was why you didn't try to contact me."

"I didn't know. You had an accident."

"I was in the hospital. I lost my memory."

"Do you have it back?"

"Most of it."

"What about your money?"

"I don't know about it. It should be in the bank."

"What about Lenny?"

"You knew that he was dead."

"But did you kill him?"

“I thought that you did.”

“It must have been Jack,” Dale affirmed.

“It was Jack.” Sienna knew that it was Jack for sure.

“But you paid him.”

He wanted money. I never gave him a thing.”

“But he killed Lenny for you.”

“I never told him to kill my husband. Jack is on his own. And he’s still out there.

You’re sure that he didn’t follow you.”

“I am sure as you’re sitting here before me.”

“You don’t know who I really am anymore.” She smiled at him. He tried to force a smile back. “Well, I’m in protective custody. You need to get me back there.”

“When am I going to see you again?”

“You’ll see me soon enough.”

The scent of her perfume filled the car. It made him remember their past times together. He pulled her over for a passionate open mouth kiss. He rubbed his lips along her. Her took her tongue in his mouth. He could already feel her inside.

He reached under her dress and slid his hands along her smooth thighs.

“Ah!” she sighed.

Once he was inside her, all his independence vanished. He lost himself as he moved with her. She had missed his love-making. As she pulled herself off of him, she gave him another deep kiss.

They didn’t say a thing as he drove her back. She pulled herself back in through the window. She needed a shower. It was a long shower. Jerry knocked at the door after she was finished.

“You’ve been in there a long time.”

“What do you mean?”

“I knocked earlier.”

“I guess I couldn’t hear you over the shower. It was so relaxing.”

“At least, you’re safe.”

She thought that she’d tease Jerry. “You know that I’m all naked and wet underneath my robe.”

“You should dry off a little or you’ll catch cold.”

She wouldn’t have minded if he crawled under the covers with her. She’d just made it with Dale. But that had just warmed her up. Jerry seemed more like an appealing boy.

“I’ve got a towel in here. Why don’t you help get those hard to reach places.”

He was totally embarrassed.

“I’ll just wait outside.”

She had to console herself to sleeping alone. That didn’t stop her fantasy.

In the morning Warren was waiting at her door.

“How much longer do I have to stay here?”

“Another few days. Then we’ll have you set up somewhere permanently.”

“Maybe you could get me out of here just for a little while. I’d like to go to a drug store.”

“No problem at all.”

It was a cool rainy day. She put on her green windbreaker and pulled the hood over her head.. She climbed into Warren's squad car.

"How does it feel having police escort?"

"I just don't want admit to doing anything wrong."

"Sienna, is there something that I should know about."

She smiled.

He actually drove to Cartersville to find her a drugstore. They were considering have her relocate to their anyway.

Sienna still felt like a prisoner in her own life. She hadn't told Warren of her memory coming back. There were too many details that she couldn't pull together. There were some things that she would never want him to know. Up to this point, he had seemed trustworthy. She didn't want to uncover evidence to the contrary.

It was obvious to her that Jack knew nothing of her whereabouts. He worked in the sheriff's office. He was assistant to Warren. But he had been kept out of the loop. She felt much safer that this was the case. But what did Warren know?

Lynette knew that Sienna was being held incommunicado. Sienna wanted to contact her. Again, she felt the need to work out more of a story before she took that step.

When Warren drove her back, she wanted to call Dale. She needed to make sure that he was still in the fold. She didn't want him to ring the room. At the same time, she didn't want the record of a call to an outside location. If only she had a cell phone. She made another excuse to Warren. He let her go down to the vending room for a drink.

"You should have got something in Cartersville."

"I had some other thing in mind there."

She was able to find a payphone. She risked calling him at the office. It would still show up from the hotel. She hope no one would check up on her.

"Warren may suspect something."

"Dale, I'm not worried about him."

"Someone followed me home."

"Are you sure?"

"Not completely. I thought that this pick up truck was behind me most of the way home."

"You think? You're not sure."

"I know that it was following me. I can't say how far. It wasn't with me as I got to my place."

"Maybe it was a coincidence."

"Or maybe someone connects us together."

"Who could that be? Jack?" Sienna could feel Warren breathing down her neck. "I better go. I'll be in touch."

"Keep your eyes open for anything unusual."

"I'm being held here. You're the one who has to watch it."

She had no idea what Jack was doing. He must have been frustrated ever since Warren decided to hide her. At least, at Lynette's he could monitor her whereabouts.

She also wondered if it was a mistake to trust Dale. Even if he wanted to keep the secret could someone else get it out of him. If that was true, then she was only a sitting duck again.