

A black SUV idles, isolated.

LACE opens the passenger door, climbs in.

VANESSA sits behind the wheel. Alone.

Vanessa pulls a small black pouch from the console and tosses it onto Lace's lap.

Lace doesn't pick it up.

She looks at Vanessa instead.

LACE
You really think I'd walk in blind?

Vanessa extends her hand. Calm. Expectant.

Lace exhales---then hands over her phone.

Vanessa seals it away. Efficient.

VANESSA
We don't say his name.

Lace smirks---sharp, knowing.

LACE
I didn't come for your marriage.

I came because something that belongs
to you ended up somewhere it don't
belong.

Vanessa's jaw tightens.

VANESSA
My earrings were in your club?

LACE
In Chloe's locker.

That name lands heavier.

Vanessa turns to her.

VANESSA
I didn't put them there.

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LACE

I know....You are smarter than that.
Even back when you were still learning
how to be quiet.

Vanessa stiffens. Just slightly.

VANESSA

Well, Someone needed witnesses to
forget the shit they saw.

Lace leans back. Studies her.

LACE

You're calm for someone standing near
a grave.

Vanessa looks forward.

VANESSA

I've lived near graves my whole life.

A glance. Lace clocks it.

LACE

I remember....I also remember who you
were when you walked into my club
before the ring, before the speeches,
before the smile you practice now.

Vanessa swallows.

VANESSA

That was a long time ago.

LACE

Bodies don't age. They just get buried
deeper.

Silence presses in.

VANESSA

He's been cheating for years.

Lace doesn't react. Already knew.

LACE

And you stayed.

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VANESSA
I survived.

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