

A Cue for Love chapter 924

Chapter 924 Thanks But No Thanks

“Natalie?” The word flashed across Olivia’s mind, but she didn’t give it much thought. Instead, she nodded with an elegant smile. “Muse, it’s been a long time since we last saw each other. Therefore, I wanted to drop by to catch up and talk about the good old days,” Olivia casually remarked without revealing her true objective.

“As I’ve sprained my ankles, I wonder if it’s convenient for us to talk inside?”

“Sure, please come in, Ms. Jones.”

Olivia limped into Anna’s apartment with the help of her crutches.

Upon entering the apartment and scrutinizing the decor, she noticed that the room was filled with baby products.

Recalling the news that she had previously received, a contemptuous glint flashed in her eye.

Back then, she had lowered herself to invite Anna to design for Farrington Jewelry. Unfortunately, the latter wasn’t appreciative and turned her down with the excuse that she wasn’t interested in working with any jewelry companies. Not long after that, Muse disappeared without a trace.

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Initially, Olivia assumed that Muse had retired or was improving herself. It never crossed her mind that Anna ended up marrying a country bumpkin. The man was both egoistic and had low self-esteem. Not only did he ignore his family, but he was also a gambling addict. Moreover, he would give her a beating whenever his temper flared.

If only Anna had worked with Farrington Jewelry back then, she wouldn’t have fallen into such a terrible predicament.

Even though Anna was oblivious to Olivia’s thoughts, she could sense the cold haughtiness the latter emitted from the eye contact they made.

“Ms. Jones, have some coffee.”

“Thank you.”

Both of them took their seats opposite each other.

After taking a sip, Olivia kicked off the conversation with an expressionless tone.

“Before I came, I actually did some digging into your past over the last two years.”

“Ms. Jones, what are you...” Even though Anna knew that conducting a background check wasn’t difficult for someone who ran Farrington Jewelry, she still felt unsettled over having her past revealed that way.

“Muse, I’m doing this out of concern for you.” Olivia continued, “I didn’t expect you to have suffered so much over the last few years. It’s my fault for not showing enough concern. If only I had known earlier, I would definitely have helped you no matter what.”

“Help?” Anna asked.

“That man will only drag you down and burden you!” Olivia assumed that Anna, trapped in despair, was waiting to be rescued. Thus, she took the liberty to suggest, “You’re still young at thirty-one this year. Given your fame as the mysterious designer, Muse, you can have any man you fancy.”

She continued, “As a result, I’ll hire the best divorce lawyer in Yaleview to help you secure all your assets in court. As for your child, who will be nothing but a burden, you should give him custody of it. As long as you focus your creative energy on your designs, I’m confident that you can quickly leave the nightmare of the last two years behind.”

Unknown to Olivia, Anna’s expression had gradually darkened.

It was true that she had suffered over the last two years.

Thinking back, she realized it was too simplistic for Olivia to judge it that way.

After all, despite how her marriage with Caleb fell apart in the end, both of them did share many loving memories.

Regardless of all Caleb’s fault, he did have a healthy and adorable baby with her.

To her, the child wasn’t a burden but a blessing from God instead.

Unfortunately, Olivia had painted a grim picture of her experience with a broad brush stroke.

Even though Olivia claimed that her criticism was borne out of concern, all she was trying to do was win Anna over with her sympathy. In truth, she didn't take Anna's interest into consideration at all.

"I will go through the divorce, while the lawyer will help me obtain custody of my child. As for designing, I'll be starting from scratch again." With a frosty look in her eye, Anna added, "However, there's no need for you to concern yourself with any of that."

"Muse, I'm doing this for your own good."

"I don't want to repeat myself. Thank you." Anna kept her distance from Olivia.

Despite feeling awkward from being rebuffed, Olivia refused to give up on her plan to recruit Muse.

"Muse, have you thought about how you're going to present your new designs? Or will you be retaining your creative concepts of the past? Anyway, I still hope to invite you to work with Farrington Jewelry."

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Chapter 925 A Small World After All

Anna already had her own plans.

"Ms. Jones, thank you for your kind thoughts." Anna was resolute in her reply. "However, my answer remains the same from three years ago. I'm unable to collaborate with Farrington Jewelry."

Spurned a second time, Olivia felt the anger within her swell. Nonetheless, she maintained an elegant and mesmerizing smile on her face.

"Why are you being so stubborn? You will need a lot of money for the upcoming divorce proceedings and raising your child. Given the amazing talent you have in design, why don't you want to at least listen to what I'm offering? After all, I'm prepared to give you better terms compared to three years ago."

Staring at Olivia, Anna, with an icy glint in her eye, dropped her cordial front.

"Ms. Jones, my reason for rejecting you remains the same as it was three years ago. I don't work with those who only value profit and not loyalty." Anna continued coldly, "As you have zero understanding of design, you're unable to comprehend the concept that my design philosophy is trying to express."

Olivia's grip on the coffee cup tightened so much that she spilled her drink.

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“If you turn me down, who else can you work with?”

“Let me repeat myself; there’s no need for you to be concerned.” Gradually getting to her feet, Anna asserted in a firm yet polite tone. “You’ll have to excuse me, as it’s about time my baby wakes up from her nap. Let me escort you out.”

Given how obvious Anna made it, her hint wasn’t lost on Olivia.

Olivia had assumed that Anna, who was supposedly in dire circumstances, would jump at the helping hand she was extending. In fact, she expected the latter to be filled with gratitude. Instead, she was met by a rejection that was more resolute than three years ago.”

“Since I have brought the partnership agreement with me, I have no intention of bringing it back with me.” Leaving a bunch of documents on the table, Olivia, with a thoughtful gleam in her eye, suggested, “A smart woman like you probably knows that hasty decisions will lead to regrets. Therefore, I hope that you will reconsider the matter thoroughly and get in touch.”

Anna let out a light chuckle. “Take it with you. I don’t need it.”

“You!”

“Ms. Jones, you’re a smart woman yourself.” Anna, too, bared her fangs. “There’s no need to keep persuading me, as you’ll end up embarrassing yourself. I’m sure you understand my decision very well.”

Anna’s rejection couldn’t be anymore clearer.

After struggling with herself, Olivia had no choice but to put the agreement back into her bag before being walked to the door by Anna.

Just when she was about to leave, she ran into the person she least expected to see.

At the sight of Natalie, she uttered, “Why is it you again?”

The exact same question popped into Natalie’s mind.

She was there to pay Anna and her baby a visit and could have never imagined running into Olivia.

Nevertheless, the purpose of Olivia's visit quickly dawned upon her. She could easily tell that the former was trying to recruit Muse to be her designer.

"Why not? I'm here to see Anna. Am I supposed to get your permission?"

"You!" The rage within Olivia was ignited.

Meanwhile, Anna was elated to see Natalie, which was an extreme contrast to her attitude toward Olivia.

Taking Natalie's hands, her eyes glistened with joy. "Natalie, I've been waiting for you for a long time. Why did you only come now? Recently, I have a lot of ideas that I would like to show you!"

Olivia gave Natalie a look of shock.

She actually knows Muse! On top of that, Muse is willing to share her ideas with Natalie after outright rejecting me! What the f*ck is going on?

Olivia was so stunned that she couldn't snap out of her shock.

Pursing her lips, Natalie suggested with a smirk, "Ms. Jones, stop spacing out. You're in my way."

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Chapter 926 You Will Beg Me One Day

Despite the fury burning in her eyes, Olivia had no choice but to limp aside with her crutches.

"Thank you."

Ever since Olivia saw Natalie, her gaze never returned to Anna. It wasn't until Natalie had entered the apartment that the door was shut in Olivia's face.

Subsequently, Olivia, filled with shock and jealousy, lingered at the door for a long while.

Does that despicable woman know that Anna is Muse? Furthermore, why is that minx so close to Muse?

Biting her lip, Olivia wasn't planning on giving up persuading Muse anytime soon.

After all, she was sure that a single mother who had an upcoming divorce case in court would certainly have pressing financial needs, at least for hiring a good lawyer. Therefore, Olivia felt that once Anna had gotten past her ego and understood the value of money, her stance would naturally waver.

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“Muse, I’ll be waiting.” Thrusting her chin in the air, she declared arrogantly, “Sooner or later, you’ll be groveling at my feet!”

Inside the apartment, Anna carried Kyle, who had just finished her milk, over to Natalie.

“Kyle, Natalie is here to see you again...” Anna spoke to the baby.

Less than a year old, the baby had a chubby face and small pinkish features. There was even a milky scent to her.

As if she could understand what her mother was saying, Kyle flailed her limbs happily. The sight of her was so adorable that it would easily melt anyone’s heart.

“Kyle seems to adore you.”

“Really?” Natalie pointed at herself. “Are you sure she doesn’t just like anyone she sees?”

“She’s really naughty!” Anna couldn’t help but complain. “She really does like you. Perhaps she instinctively knows about all that you have done for us.”

“Stop flattering me by putting words in her mouth.” Natalie laughed as she teased Kyle.

Not knowing how to respond, Anna simply shook her head with a smile.

After playing with Kyle for a short while, Anna handed her over to the nanny she had hired before heading into the study with Natalie.

“Olivia came to see me about collaborating with Farrington Jewelry.” Anna explained candidly, “However, I rejected her outright and didn’t reveal my partnership with Dream to her.”

“I think that she will continue bugging you, for she’s desperate to prove herself by showing some results.” Natalie continued calmly, “If she tries to pressure you by making

your life difficult, you can tell Yandel or me anytime, and we'll deal with it. As Kyle is still young, you should spend more time with her outside of work."

Holding Natalie's hand tightly, Anna had so much to say but didn't know where to begin.

Natalie had helped her so much that she knew she would never be able to repay her debt of gratitude.

"Natalie, thank you. Thank you from the bottom of my heart."

"Don't be a stranger." Natalie cracked a faint smile. "That's what we should be doing in life. Anna, let's work together to do something meaningful."

Her eyes sparkled with optimism.

Subsequently, Anna would never forget the glint in Natalie's eyes. Even when the latter had reached the pinnacle of the business world, she maintained the same unmistakable look, but that was a story for another day.

After Natalie had finished her discussion with Anna and left, she received a call from Yandel.

"What's up?"

"Boss, Amos has sent you an invitation for Carlos' birthday banquet the following evening." Yandel gave Natalie the details of the event. "Usually, such invitations are sent out at least half a month in advance. Hence, isn't it too sudden to send one to you now?"

"So be it. Yandel, please RSVP to the Stone Corporation that I'll be attending." Natalie casually added, "The Stone family controls many gem mines. Furthermore, there's nothing for me to lose since it isn't a particularly precarious event."

"For your plus one, I'll put down Mr. Bow—"

Halfway through his sentence, Yandel couldn't resist slapping his own mouth.

Other than the fact that Samuel wasn't around, he couldn't attend the event with Natalie even if he was. Yandel had just blurted out the words out of habit.

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Chapter 927 Comparison Between Beauties

He stopped halfway and apologized, "Boss, I'm sorry for my faux pas."

Natalie's lips curled slightly over the phone as she replied, "No need for an apology. It's not like you did it on purpose."

"Okay." Regaining his senses, Yandel inquired, "In that case, who would you like as your plus one for the birthday banquet?"

Natalie replied matter-of-factly, "I know you're hoping for me to choose someone else, but just think about it; when we were in Chanaea, I could still trouble Ross. Now that we're in Loang, you have become my only hope!"

Cognizant of the truth behind her words, Yandel had no choice but to resign himself to the task. "Understood."

After ending the call, Natalie looked up at the sky and sighed.

It isn't easy forming a habit. Neither is it easy to get rid of it too.

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In the blink of an eye, it was the day of the banquet.

The event was held in Yaleview Tower, the tallest building in the city. From the entrance to the ballroom, the venue was opulently decorated, clearly a reminder to the guests of the host's distinguished position.

Glistening chandeliers illuminated the path from above, while the walls were adorned with elegant oil paintings. The striking red carpet was made of pure wool and felt plush to every step. Even though the guest list wasn't big, they were the who's who of the city and naturally dressed to the nines.

Meanwhile, the head of the Jones family, Bridger, entered the ballroom, followed by his wife, Jada Goode, and children, Olivia and Jerry.

"Happy birthday, Carlos!" Bridger extended his hand with glee written all over his face.

After wishing Carlos the same, Jada didn't forget to push Jerry and Olivia forward.

While Jerry wished Carlos a lackluster happy birthday, Olivia walked up to the latter with a vibrant smile. "Mr. Stone, I would like to wish you a splendid birthday this year. I also heard that you had obtained a piece of land in western Loang that's rich in minerals. Therefore, I couldn't be any happier for you."

“Olivia, you really have your ear to the ground.” Chomping on his cigar, Carlos threw Amos a glance. “But, it no longer belongs to me, as I have transferred ownership of it over to Ammy.”

Amos grunted in acknowledgment.

Upon hearing the news, Olivia’s eyes flickered with elation, especially since Amos was her fiancé.

After all, such a valuable gift from Carlos would only serve to further secure her future.

In the meantime, Bridger and Jada shared Olivia’s delight. As the Stone family’s business empire continued to grow, the two of them relished the brilliance of their decision to get their daughter engaged to Amos.

The only one who was slow to share the Jones family’s sentiment was Jerry.

In the midst of their joy, the Jones family was oblivious to the fact that Carlos and Amos were discreetly frowning upon their reaction.

Carlos never liked the Jones family and had only tacitly agreed to the marriage. Nevertheless, he considered Olivia an eligible candidate for daughter-in-law simply because he couldn’t find any fault with her.

As for Amos, all he felt toward Olivia was disdain. As a gemstone supplier, he had provided Farrington Jewelry with plenty of opportunities, but Olivia had always failed to impress. Instead, she would insist on his continuous support by leveraging her position as his fiancée.

All this while, Amos didn’t mind the fact at all until Natalie’s appearance provided a basis for comparison. It was only then that Olivia’s mediocrity became jarringly obvious.

“Ammy, go chat with Olivia,” Carlos casually ordered.

Having no choice but to pretend to obey his father’s instructions, Amos led Olivia to the side.

Meanwhile, Olivia’s smile widened in anticipation of getting to interact with Amos privately. “Ammy, congratulations on receiving that piece of land.”

Ignoring her, Amos raised his wine glass to his lips as his gaze drifted toward the entrance. The only thing on his mind was the woman he was waiting with anticipation for.