

THE ADORABLE TWINS AND THEIR CEO DADDY

Chapter 231 Drowning

Everyone there was taken aback at the time.

"What exactly happened? Why did the bracelet of diamonds fall into the water?" Inger raced over with urgency.

"It seemed like Miss Pierce was in a bad mood at the moment. Initially, I was going to assist her to put the bracelet away and apologize to her, but she was so excited that she accidentally dropped it into the swimming pool."

The corners of Eli's eyes drooped slightly as he smiled with a sour grin. He behaved in a victimized and naive manner.

Everybody began to feel sorry for him. They were of the opinion that Eli had done nothing wrong.

They then swiveled around to face Eliana with reproachful looks.

Eli had surprised Eliana by complaining first!

"You're making things up. The bracelet was not an accident; you dropped it into the water on purpose," she shot back with a response that was as quick as lightning.

Unfortunately, no one was willing to put their faith in her.

"Our faith in you hasn't wavered, Eli. You're not to blame."

"Yes, she had to have planned it."

Eliana was the target of everyone's wrath.

Eliana's body trembled as she vented her rage at Eli.

Because everyone was occupied just now, Eliana had no proof to support her claim of innocence.

Inger also had faith in Eli. She remarked with a sneer, "Regardless of what you intend to do, Miss Pierce, this bracelet is sponsored by the Moran Group, and we must return it. I am compelled to seek restitution from you."

Again, Eliana was requested to make compensation.

"What if I don't recompense you?" she said in a chilly tone.

It was safe to say that Inger wasn't a slouch. "Miss Pierce, I'm afraid that isn't up to you," she told her straight out.

Eli acted as if he were a decent guy and replied, "You now have a second option, Miss Pierce. The diamonds are in the pool. If you hurry, you can still catch them. In spite of this..."

"What now?"

"But you'll have to put in the effort. This is your own fault and you deserve to be punished. You'll have no one to turn to," Eli stated a little more slowly.

He was hell-bent on humiliating Eliana.

As Eliana lowered her head, she took a look at the swimming pool, which was enormous. It was becoming late. While the scene was illuminated, it remained dark beneath the water. Finding all the diamonds on her own was impossible.

Eli kept on teasing her, "What? You'd rather not? You may quit or request assistance from Mr. Moran."

Eliana smirked, knowing that Eli had attempted to repel her.

Eli couldn't have what he wanted from her.

Eliana did not consider seeking Maurice for support.

"Only searching for diamonds? Piece of cake! I'm certain that I'm capable of doing this task on my own. There is no need to be so snarky about this."

She plunged into the pool without hesitation.

The water in the swimming pool was icy. Eliana plummeted to the bottom of the pool. It was dark and she had to fumble for the diamonds in the murky water. She was able to locate one before her oxygen

was depleted.

"Got one!"

Eliana ascended to the surface, set aside the diamond she had found, and then submerged once again. One by one, the gems were discovered throughout time.

Eli was taken aback by what he saw.

Eliana's stubbornness drove him crazy!

However, Eli had a presumption that Eliana was going to quit on her own or that she was going to give up as soon as she picked some of them. Then, he would have every justification for kicking her out of his team for good.

No one prepared him for how determined Eliana

would be to get the jewels.

Eliana repeatedly dove gently into the water and surfaced awkwardly. Eli felt sorry for her as he gazed at her.

In the end, he had no choice but to accept the situation as it was.

One diamond at a time, Eliana's physical power was being depleted as she searched for them.

When she jumped back into the water, she felt a tightness in her thigh!

Suddenly, Eliana couldn't move one inch. Her throat suddenly tightened as the water in the pool choked her. She'd taken a big breath unconsciously. The water was pouring into her trachea, and she was beginning to suffocate.

She wanted to scream for aid, but she couldn't bring herself to do it.

Eliana struggled and splashed water as she fought for her life beneath the pool.

Eli sensed instantly that something was amiss with Eliana. He yelled, "Oh no, she's drowning!"

No one wanted to jump to Eliana's rescue as the panic broke out.

"Help!" Eli yelled at the top of his lungs.

He couldn't do anything except watch from the sidelines, since he had no idea how to swim.

In the last seconds, before Eliana was ready to go under, a guy dashed over and dove into the pool.

Eliana had exhausted her strength.

Her field of view was clouded. She sunk to the bottom of the water after giving up her fight.

Was her demise imminent?

Moments before she lost consciousness, she dimly saw a person swimming toward her.

Who was this man?

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Chapter 232 I'll Take You Away.



"Eliana, Eliana..."

Drowning, Eliana heard someone frantically calling out to her. She struggled to open her eyes. But her eyelids weighed such heaviness that she couldn't part them open.

Suddenly, a pair of large hands pressed against her chest and squeezed hard. Something which felt cold and soft stuck to her lips, forcing air into her mouth.

"Ahem, ahem, ahem..."

Eliana finally spurted out the water stuck in her lungs. She had a violent fit of cough, as though she was going to cough her lungs out. Her nasal passage burned in pains.

After coughing for nearly a minute, Eliana finally stopped.

"Eliana, are you alright?"

A pair of large hands helped her sit up and gently patted her back.

In a struggle, Eliana's eyes fluttered open and before her was a face as handsome as a god.

"M... Maurice."

It was Maurice who had saved her

With difficulty, Eliana called out his name, her nose feeling sore. One more look at him, she suddenly felt all kinds feelings surged up in her heart.

She could have sworn that she wouldn't survive this time.

The moment she saw Maurice, she realized that she survived. The urge to cry came heavy on her, like a bullied child who could no longer bear the grievance upon seeing their parents.

"Say nothing. I'll take you away."

Maurice's gaze was gentle and firm as he reached out and wrapped his arms around Eliana's waist and legs. He lifted her up and turned away as the crowd stared in amazement.

It was only after a long time that the crowd came out of their reverie.

"Phew! That was scary. Thankfully, nothing happened," Inger said in relief.

The scene was in chaos after Eliana drowned. However, just when she thought something bad was

going to happen, the CEO of the Moran Group suddenly rushed over and dived into the water without hesitation to save Eliana.

Maurice's defiance to personally go into the water to save her, regardless of his own safety, made Inger guess that the relationship between him and Eliana might be... perhaps, not just an ordinary one.

Inger suddenly regretted the harsh words he had just hurled at Eliana. If Eliana held any grudge against them and reported to Mr. Moran, Eli would suffer for it.

With this in mind, Inger subconsciously turned to look at Eli.

Since Maurice took Eliana away, Eli had been standing quietly by the pool, staring at nothing in particular.

He squatted down to pick up the diamonds that Eliana had worked so hard to find, and without realizing it, glanced at the few sketches on the floor.

It must have fallen off during the chaos.

Eli picked up each of the sketches. On the drafts were men's clothes of different styles, together with the matching jewelry.

The lines were simple, but it was quite clear that the drawer had taken her time.

Did Eliana draw all these?

Eli's heart sank as he looked at the sketches. He had been making things hard for Eliana the whole day, yet she still helped him with styling intently.

If she was really a stalking fan, was it necessary for

her to do these? Eli was suddenly a bit unsure.

Quietly, he put away the sketches that were soaked with water. His heart was clouded with mixed feelings.

Maybe he was wrong from the start.

"Achoo!"

Wrapped in a bath towel, Eliana shivered seriously, her teeth chattering against each other. She kept on sneezing.

After Maurice carried her, he took her to his office.

"Hurry up, get out of your wet clothes and go take a shower," Maurice urged as he took a set of women's clothes out of nowhere and placed them on the sofa.

Eliana wrapped herself tightly with the bath towel.

"No, thanks. I just want to go home now."

How could she go home in this state?

Maurice frowned, looked at the disheveled Eliana and threatened, "If you don't want to take a shower yourself, I'll do it for you."

He reached out his hands, feigning a move to take off the bath towel.

"I'll go. I'll go, okay?" Eliana surrendered.

Eliana rushed into the bathroom, her face flushing red.

The warm water flowed from the nozzle, caressing off the coldness and tiredness all over her body. She couldn't help but let out a small moan.

Eliana felt relieved after taking the shower, but when she was about to get dressed, she was dumbfounded. Her mouth slightly parted in confusion.

She was such a fool to have forgotten to bring the clean clothes into the bathroom.

And she wasn't with her phone.

Now there was only Maurice outside. Eliana only had one option if she didn't want to go out naked...

Ask Maurice to give her the clothes.

'God, help me!'

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THE ADORABLE TWINS AND THEIR CEO DADDY

Chapter 233 Babe

In the meanwhile, Eliana was in the shower and Maurice was out doing business.

Eliana hadn't come out of the bathroom for a long time, despite the fact that the water had stopped running.

The door to the bathroom caught Maurice's attention. Did anything happen again to Eliana?

Standing up, he was going to have a look. As soon as he got close enough, he noticed the clothes he had prepared for her on the sofa.

Eliana was afraid to come out because she had left her clothes on the sofa.

Maurice was both powerless and amused.

He made his way to the bathroom and knocked on the door. "What's keeping you there, Eliana? Is there anything I can do for you?"

Eliana was surprised by the unexpected knock at the door while she was in there. She said unyieldingly, "No."

That lady was stubborn!

Maurice grinned. "Honestly? Then exit immediately. What's with all the time you're spending in my bathroom?"

While awkwardly clad in a bath towel, Eliana was at a loss.

Her phone rang at that exact moment.

Maurice went and took Eliana's phone. "Babe" was the name of the caller.

When did Eliana meet a new man?

Who was this person?

Jealousy consumed Maurice's thoughts.

When Eliana was in the bathroom, she heard her phone ringing as well, which made her nervous.

The kids may have found that she hadn't arrived home yet and phoned her.

Immediately, Eliana said, "Maurice, assist me in bringing my clothing and cellphone."

Eliana was bursting to answer the phone, and Maurice noticed it.

His pupils dilated. "You can only pick one of them," he said coldly.

The rage in Eliana was so palpable that she opened the door just a crack, wanting to let out a scream at Maurice.

She opened the door to find Maurice standing there. She slammed the door closed.

"I'm having a shower right now. What's the point of you standing there? What's the matter with you?"

Eliana's wrath and shame caused her to lose her cool.

"Who's babe?" Maurice's temper had erupted at this point.

"What was that?" Eliana couldn't make out what he

was saying.

Maurice increased his volume, saying, "Your babe has phoned you. What is his name?"

This time, Eliana heard him well and knew her children had called her. She was completely bewildered at this point.

Silence reigned in the bathroom. Maurice gave a sneering glare.

Since Eliana didn't tell him, he determined to answer for himself.

Maurice answered the telephone with resolution.

"Hello, Mommy, Where are you now? Why are you still not at home?"

A little child's voice could be heard on the other end.

He was perplexed, to say the least. It was not clear to him why the youngster referred to Eliana as Mommy.

The bathroom suddenly erupted in a scream.

"Ah!"

Eliana had just heard Adrian's voice. She was in such a state of panic that she completely forgot she was in the bathroom. She wanted to run, but she tripped while attempting to do so.

On impact, Eliana slammed onto the tiled floor hard.

It was a painful fall!

Eliana was dizzy from the fall. She was unable to rise to her feet as she lay on the floor, and her bath towel

slipped down.

In response to Eliana's screams, Maurice burst into the bathroom without bothering about the phone call. He didn't give a damn who the kid was on the other end of the line.

"Eliana, are you alright? Were you hurt?"

Maurice saw her on the floor. Naked and voluptuous, Eliana's body made her attractive. She had taken a bath. The heat had turned her skin bright pink.

There was a tightness in Maurice's throat. He sank to his knees and reached out to lift Eliana.

"Don't even think about looking at me!"

Eliana flushed and put out her hand to block Maurice's view.

"It's nothing new." Maurice giggled as he teased her.

"Take your eyes off me!"

Eliana used both hands to block Maurice's eyes.

After the taunting jabs, Maurice finally responded, "Put your hands down first, please. I won't open my eyes."

"Deal?"

"Deal."

Eliana gradually withdrew her hands and saw that Maurice's eyes were closed.

"Don't look at me till I'm clothed," she said.

"Of course."

Maurice extended his hand. This time, Eliana didn't say no.

As he closed his eyes, Maurice was able to feel the softness and suppleness of her skin in his hand. Eliana's enticing figure appeared in his thoughts.

Eliana exited the washroom with the help of Maurice. She took the clothing off the sofa and changed swiftly. When she looked back, she found Maurice standing with his eyes closed behind her.

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Chapter 234 Teach Him A Lesson



This was strange. Why was Maurice being so cooperative?

Was he stealing glances at her?

Eliana was skeptical. She walked over to Maurice and waved her hand in front of his face. In an instant, his hand caught hers.

"What's this? You're bold again after getting dressed?"

A hint of playfulness was in Maurice's voice. He grasped Eliana's hand and slowly approached her until her back hit the bookshelf.

"What are you doing?"

Maurice's looming figure made Eliana feel a little shy and uneasy.

Maurice lowered his eyes and moved even closer to her. She could feel his warm breath as his beautiful lips almost pressed against her ear.

"I have to tell you that your clothes..."

Eliana became stiff and her eyes flickered back and forth in a panic. She felt like a small songbird cornered by a huge beast.

"I just remembered that I forgot to turn off the gas at my house. I have to go. As for the clothes... I'll wash them and return them to you later."

Eliana pushed Maurice out of her way, grabbed her things, and rushed out of the room.

Maurice paused. He was unsure if he should laugh or cry.

He was not a monster who wanted to eat her whole.

He had only wanted to tell her that she was wearing the clothes inside out.

When Eliana pulled the door open, she bumped into Corbin.

"Who is it? Maybe you should watch where you're going, eh, Eliana?"

Corbin was surprised to see Eliana. He wondered why she was here, and why she was so flustered.

Eliana didn't even raise her head.

She passed Corbin wordlessly and hurried away like she was being chased.

"That was strange," Corbin said as he walked into the office. "What happened? She looked like she saw a ghost."

He raised his head and saw Maurice.

"She didn't see a ghost. She saw me."

Maurice raised his eyebrows and gave Corbin a cold glance.

Corbin shut up immediately.

"Now that you're here, I have a task for you."

Maurice's face was expressionless, but his black eyes shone with a cold light. "Teach that man, Eli Goodwin, a lesson."

Maurice's heart ached when he remembered pulling Eliana's deathly cold body from the pool.

Eli would pay for hurting her.

Corbin shivered. Maurice's words seemed to have chilled the room by several degrees.

He wondered what Eli did to earn Maurice's ire. Eli was going to get himself banned.

"Yes. I'll do it right away."

Corbin was an efficient worker.

Within two hours, Inger received the news that all of Eli's business cooperation projects had been canceled. Word spread around the internet that he had forced a female stylist to get into the pool to fetch the diamonds because he was too haughty to do so himself.

Public opinion turned against the formerly-popular star in an instant.

There had to be someone manipulating the public's opinion. Who was it?

Was it Eliana? Had she spread the unflattering news because of Eli's poor treatment of her? Or was it Maurice, the CEO of the Moran Group? Did he seek revenge on Eliana's behalf?

Inger now regretted hiring Eliana as Eli's stylist.

She found Eli and tried to reason with him. "Eli, you have to listen. Be kind to Eliana tomorrow. Find a way to make peace with her. Then this will all be over."

Eli looked at the sketches he held, which were drawn by Eliana.

Something had changed in his heart. He couldn't understand why he felt irritated when he remembered Maurice taking Eliana away.

"Inger, do you think that Eliana is Maurice's lover?" Eli asked abruptly.

Inger had also been confused by the scene at the pool. "I don't know. I've never heard of Maurice having a lover."

Eli looked down at the sketches and murmured, "Then what's going on between them?"

Why did Eli suddenly care about their relationship so much?

Inger realized what she thought was going on. She gave Eli a firm look. "Eli, as your agent, I have to remind you that falling in love with anyone at this

critical point of your career would be disastrous. You must not have feelings for Eliana. Do you understand?"

"Inger, don't worry. That's not my intention." Eli laughed. "I'm just curious. It would be an interesting piece of gossip if an insignificant stylist and the CEO of the Moran Group were lovers."

"What do you want to do, then?" Inger breathed a sigh of relief.

"I'll find out if they are lovers or not."

He had to understand what kind of person that woman was.

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Chapter 235 Who Is The Man



This time, returning to the Moran Group didn't bring Eliana joy. She had been through many struggles and even almost lost her life.

It was like the place was plotting against her.

She got home very late and threw herself on the sofa, exhausted.

Nana had heard the door open and she came over with the twins. She found Eliana lying on the sofa in new clothes, which were inside out.

"Eliana, what's wrong? Why did you change your

clothes? And why are your clothes inside out?"

Inside out? Were they really?

Eliana immediately jumped up and looked down at her clothes.

Sure enough, Nana was right.

She was embarrassed. Apparently, earlier in his office, Maurice was just trying to tell her that her clothes were inside out.

Eliana felt so humiliated.

"Mommy, what's wrong?" Aileen asked worriedly as she ran to Eliana.

"I'm fine. I'm just a little tired from work."

Eliana picked Aileen up and took a few deep breaths.

"Mommy, who is the man that answered your phone today?" Adrian asked abruptly.

Eliana's hands froze.

"When Adrian called you, a man answered the phone. Who is he, Mommy?" Aileen raised her head and looked up at Eliana.

"What? Eliana, do you have a new man? Why didn't you tell me? Tell me everything!" Nana exclaimed.

Three pairs of large eyes burned holes into Eliana.

"You've gotten it wrong. That was just one of my colleagues," Eliana explained.

"Which colleague? Do I know him?" Nana gave Eliana

a piercing and curious look that pulled the truth out of her.

"Mommy, was it really just a colleague?"

Adrian frowned. He obviously didn't believe it.

Eliana had no choice. She winked at Nana and silently mouthed, "Maurice."

Damn it! It was him.

Nana immediately caught Eliana's meaning. She suddenly shifted her position to be on Eliana's side.

"Aileen, Adrian, since your mommy said it was just a colleague, he must be just a colleague."

"But..." Aileen recalled the phone call. "The voice I heard sounded like the voice of Silas' uncle."

Silas' uncle? Corbin?

How could Corbin's voice sound like Maurice's?

"Dear, you must have misheard. They are not alike at all," Nana said.

"Yes, they are." Adrian nodded in agreement.

Nana grew suspicious. It was impossible that both children had misheard.

She wanted to get the details from them.

"Nana, come here and have a look!"

Eliana had turned on her cell phone and been greeted by a ton of notifications from news sites and social media.

The Internet was in an uproar. "Eli put on a display of haughtiness at the site of his latest commercial shoot. He forced a female stylist to jump into a pool to pick up diamonds."

The top comments were all criticizing Eli. Many were even from partners saying they would no longer work with him.

How could the news of what had happened just today spread so fast?

Eliana couldn't believe it.

"What's wrong?"

Nana approached her. Eliana handed her the phone.
"Have a look!"

Nana's eyes widened as she scrolled through the news.

"Eliana, is this true? Did Eli really do this to you?"

Eliana sighed. "It's true. Eli targeted me. He went too far today."

"How dare he?"

Nana's anger flared up and she looked like she was ready to fight Eli.

"Calm down!" Eliana threw water on the flames of Nana's fury. "Here's what happened..."

Eliana explained the whole story in detail.

"So Preston's ring is in Eli's hands now? Are you doing all this to get the ring back?" Nana finally

figured it out.

Eliana nodded seriously. "But now Eli doesn't want to return the ring. Things are getting more and more complicated."

But this wouldn't stop her.

Once Eliana was determined to do something, she would never give up.

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Chapter 236 I'm Sorry

The next morning, Eliana went to work as usual, as if nothing had happened.

As soon as she arrived, whispers began following her.

"I think it was her who spoke to the reporters about Eli yesterday."

"It looks like her. I don't know her, but I didn't expect that she would be so vindictive."

"It's probably best to stay out of her way..."

Eliana couldn't refrain from replying when she heard these comments. She turned around and sneered, "Yesterday, when I was drowning, none of you came to save me. But now, all of you are talking about me. If I had died, none of you would have escaped punishment. You're all murderers."

The whispers stopped. No one dared to even look at Eliana again.

They only slandered her behind her back.

Eliana turned away and saw Eli walking towards her.

The negative public opinion of him did not seem to affect him at all. He had a sunny smile on his face, but his words were not pleasant to Eliana.

"I didn't expect you to have such a strong character. Why didn't you refuse to pick up the diamonds yesterday? Did you know that Maurice would come to save you?"

Eli was kidding, but Eliana exploded with anger.

"Eli, you must have misunderstood. I did not fetch the diamond bracelet because of your oppression."

"Why then?" Eli asked, confused.

"Do you know how many people have put their heart and soul into making that diamond bracelet? The designer dreamed up the design and then countless craftsmen labored to make that design a reality. You only see an expensive object. I see the hard work of everyone behind it. You shouldn't have made fun of their labor."

Eliana's words were powerful enough to make Eli feel a little ashamed.

All he had thought about was how he could use the diamond bracelet to force Eliana to resign.

"I'm sorry," Eli murmured.

"What?"

Eliana thought she must have heard him wrong.

"I'm sorry. I shouldn't have made you pick up the diamonds. I apologize."

Eli's sincere expression surprised Eliana.

Eliana had been prepared for an argument, but Eli had apologized so quickly.

"By the way, here are your sketches. I saw them and picked a few sets that can be used today."

Eli took out several sketches from behind his back and held them out to Eliana, who accepted them in a daze.

"By the way... I can tell you put a lot of effort into these." Eli's ears went red and he turned away. He left in a hurry.

Eliana was now alone and confused.

What was up with Eli? Why was he suddenly treating her so well?

Before Eliana could try to unravel this mystery, she had to focus on her work.

During her break, she remembered that she still had Maurice's clothes. She texted Corbin.

"Corbin, are you free now? I can give you Maurice's clothes."

Eliana didn't want to see Maurice, so she hoped Corbin would accept the clothes.

Soon, Corbin replied, "I have asked Mr. Moran. He said that if you want to return the clothes, you should come and give them back yourself. If you don't want

to come, you can simply throw the clothes away."

Eliana had expected this response.

"I'll bring them to him after work."

So, she had no choice but to face Maurice.

Eliana was in a daze.

"Eliana, come here."

Eli's voice came from the lounge.

Eliana put her thoughts aside and walked into the lounge.

Eli was wearing a vest that revealed his powerful arms and striking figure. He didn't usually dress like this.

Many women would be drawn to his masculine charm.

Eliana's eyes landed on Eli's neck.

The ruby ring!

"Help me change my clothes. This outfit is not good."

Eli handed his coat to her. For a moment, Eliana was too absorbed to react.

Eli followed her gaze to the ring on his neck and laughed. "Is this so important to you? You can't take your eyes off of it."

"Yes, it's very important to me."

Eliana nodded enthusiastically.

"If it's so important, why did you lose it?" Eli asked.

Eliana was at a loss for words.

Would Eli believe her if she told him the story of the dog and the ring again?

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Chapter 237 You Will Have Your Own Luck



Eli waited in silence for her answer.

After a long while, Eliana sighed. "To tell you the truth, this ring belonged to my friend's mother. She has passed away. It is an important keepsake. I

accidentally came into possession of it and then lost it. I have been looking for it for a long time."

A keepsake...

Her words tugged at Eli's heartstrings.

"This is why I have to take the ring back. Do you understand?"

She looked at Eli earnestly.

"A few days before I found Lucky, my previous dog passed away. I believe that God meant for me to find Lucky. So I took it home. I wasn't expecting the ring to appear a few days later. It was like magic. I've been lucky since that day."

Somehow, Eli felt he could tell her everything.

"Eli, I know you regard this ring as your lucky charm, but it belongs to someone else. You don't have to take something that's not yours. You will have your own luck one day," Eliana stated sincerely.

Would he indeed have his own luck?

Eli didn't know what to say. No one had ever said something like that to him before.

Meanwhile, Maurice had been waiting for a long time and was worried that something bad had happened. He decided to find Eliana.

When Maurice arrived at the shooting scene of advertisement, he looked around and didn't see her.

He grabbed an employee by the hand. "Where is Eliana?"

"Mr. Moran!" The employee felt flattered. "You mean Miss Pierce? She is probably in the lounge."

Maurice hurried to the lounge.

Just as Eli was about to speak, he saw Maurice walking towards them.

Eli had a brilliant idea. He took Eliana's hand, lowered his head, and frowned.

"Will I?" he asked in a fragile voice.

No one could look at the distraught expression on Eli's face without feeling for him.

Eliana was no exception. She patted him on the shoulder and said affectionately, "Of course you will. Everyone has their own luck. Don't be so sad. How about this? You can keep the dog. He will still bring

you luck."

The truth was that she couldn't afford to keep two dogs. She was sad to let Bowling go.

Eli stepped toward her and wrapped his arms around her. "Thank you, Eliana. I'll think about it," he said in a warm tone.

From behind, the two looked extremely intimate.

Eliana was so elated from the triumph of reclaiming the ring that she didn't notice how their posture seemed inappropriate.

When Maurice entered, he saw Eli standing very close to Eliana, lowering his head towards her face and talking to her confidently and intimately.

Eli's eyes met Maurice's and he gave Maurice a

defiant stare.

'Well, it seems that this guy really doesn't want to work in the entertainment business anymore,' Maurice thought.

His face suddenly darkened. He pursed his lips and the veins on his forehead twitched. Anyone who knew him well could have seen that he was about to get angry.

"Mr. Moran!" People around greeted him with respect.

When she heard this, a chill passed through Eliana's body. She was about to turn around, but Eli suddenly hugged her.

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Chapter 238 A One-sided Crush



Eliana's thoughts suddenly went blank, and she unconsciously pushed Eli aside.

She turned around to see Maurice, who was looking downcast.

"The timing of my arrival seems to be out of whack."

Maurice scowled as he struggled to hold back the rising rage that was welling up inside him. His words had wry cynicism to them.

"There's more to it than what you see..." Eliana felt compelled to clarify.

Without giving her the opportunity to explain, Maurice turned and walked away.

Eli felt it was insufficient, so he added, "Mr. Moran, goodbye."

"Eli, you were deliberate in your actions. In addition, you simply lied to me."

Eliana scowled at Eli with her eyes wide open as she raised her head. She hoped she could savage him with her teeth.

Eli quickly surrendered by raising his hands. "Let go of your resentment. To be honest, I'd want to know more about you and Maurice's connection."

"What conclusion have you gotten to?" Eliana scoffed.

"I've finally figured it out. The CEO of the Moran Group seems to have a one-sided crush on you."

Knowing that Maurice's affection for Eliana was unrequited, Eli felt a tinge of excitement.

"Shut up already."

Eliana exhibited irritability and guilt.

She had no connection to Maurice. Why did she act as though she had been found cheating with another man?

When Eliana noticed the bag on the couch, she realized she hadn't returned Maurice's clothing.

"Please don't bother me anymore. I've nearly completely forgotten about my work. There are more outfits available. Hung there. You don't need anybody

else to help you with that, I assume."

Eliana scooped up the clothes and pursued Maurice.

She wasn't trying to console Maurice. She just wanted to give the clothing back.

When Eliana arrived at Maurice's office out of breath, he was already seated in his chair, head down, doing business as if his recent gaffe outside the lounge had been a hallucination.

"Maurice, I can't thank you enough for saving me yesterday. I have come to return your clothes."

Eliana gave the clothing over to him. Maurice cocked his chin and sent a fleeting look at her.

"Toss it in the trash, Corbin."

"Err..."

Corbin was scared to respond for fear of getting himself into trouble.

Eliana exhaled with rage. She was baffled as to how he could be so cruel.

"Maurice, it's OK if you're not happy with me. What makes you so angry that you have to let it all out on the clothes?"

Slowly, Maurice placed the paper on the table and lifted his dark eyes to shoot a caustic gaze at her. "Let it all out? You give yourself too much credit. Because it's worthless, I discard it. In what capacity should I retain this? Do you intend to utilize it in the CEO's office as a backup?"

Eliana couldn't bear the way Maurice spoke to her.

She didn't need to explain herself because of this.

"As it stands now, I've given back the clothing. It's entirely up to you how you handle it."

Eliana forcibly handed Corbin the clothes. Maurice's deep voice came from behind her as soon as she turned around.

"Beware of Eli's advances. He's a troublemaker by nature."

Eliana came to a halt and drew a big breath when she heard that.

"Maurice, I'll only go over this with you once. I will only be by Eli's side since one of my close friends lost an essential ring, and it's in Eli's hands. It's something I should retract. That is all there is to it."

After making her statement, she walked away without turning around.

A ring...

Maurice narrowed his gaze. Before he could comprehend the situation, he heard Corbin's outburst.

"She said a ring! Has Eliana mentioned the ring you're also after? But why did the ring fall into Eli's hands?" Corbin said excitedly.

"The first objective is to get the ring from Eli, regardless of why it is in his possession."

When he learned that the ring he had been seeking for so long was nearly in his reach, Maurice could not help but feel irritated.

"But hold on a second." Corbin went to a complete stop. "Eli is, after all, a well-known character around town. Numerous individuals have seen him with the ring. Gerald, I'm afraid, has already learned of this and acted accordingly."

Maurice felt his stomach drop as his eyes flashed and his chest tightened.

"Then we must move quickly to reclaim the ring before Gerald takes action."

The time to leave the work had come. Inger abruptly stopped Eliana as she was going to leave for home.

"Do you want to come to supper with us tonight, Miss Pierce? The misunderstanding that arose between you and Eli yesterday may be cleared up then."

"Inger, get your mind off that. It does not have to be a

personal issue for you. That's done with," Eliana explained.

"What if I can't help it? Please do that for me."

Eliana could not again decline Inger's request to accompany her to the restaurant, since it would be impolite.

Eliana was surprised to see someone she didn't anticipate as she entered the private dining room.

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[THE ADORABLE TWINS AND THEIR CEO DADDY](#)

Chapter 239 Name Your Price



"Maurice, what are you doing here?" Eliana asked, surprised.

Hadn't he just warned her to stay away from Eli? So why would he come here himself?

Eliana couldn't fathom his motives.

"Miss Pierce, have a seat!" Inger gave her a warm greeting.

Only two vacant seats remained. One on Eli's left and one on Maurice's right.

Which should she choose?

This was a dire dilemma.

"Eliana, take the seat beside mine."

Before she could make her choice, Eli stood and pulled out the chair next to his.

She couldn't refuse.

She had no choice but to walk over and sit down beside Eli. Unfortunately for her, her seat was opposite Maurice.

After all the guests had been seated, Inger stood up with a wineglass in her hand.

"Thank you all for coming. I invited you here to clarify the misunderstanding last night. Eli, now's the time to apologize to Miss Pierce."

Inger swallowed the wine in her glass and gave Eli a gentle shove.

"Inger, I already apologized to her, and she forgave

me. We even hugged..."

Eli blurted out the words. Eliana kicked him under the table.

"Don't talk nonsense."

"Are you saying you haven't forgiven me yet?" Eli raised his eyebrows.

"Of course not. The situation has not been resolved, after all. You haven't given it back. I'll forgive you as soon as it is returned to me," Eliana said in a joking manner.

Inger didn't understand what was happening. "Eli, did you take something that belongs to Miss Pierce? You must return it to her quickly."

Eli didn't hesitate to remove the chain with the ring on

it from around his neck.

Maurice recognized his mother's ring immediately.

So this was the person who had taken it. Maurice was so furious in that moment that he wanted to kill Eli.

Eli held the ring up and stared at Eliana seriously. "I will return my lucky ring to you, but only if you agree to one condition."

These words made Eliana's stomach sink. She felt that she would agree to anything to get the ring back.

"Well, what is the condition?"

"I want you to be my full-time stylist."

The truth was that Eli had already decided that he would return the ring to Eliana. Her words before had

convinced him. But he couldn't pass up the chance to ask for a favor before he returned the ring.

"Absolutely not!"

Maurice rejected Eli's request before Eliana could even speak.

"She can't be your stylist, because she is going to return to work for the Moran Group."

Maurice's voice was firm. He commanded everyone's attention.

Eli sneered and pulled the ring closer to himself. "I don't think that's true, Mr. Moran. If Eliana wanted to work for you, why did she leave?"

"You're not inside her head. How do you know that she didn't change her mind?" Maurice said coldly.

The competition between Maurice and Eli chilled the room.

Why did they have to argue?

Eliana massaged her forehead. Her heart told her to agree to Eli's request. Getting the ring so that she could return it to Preston was more important than anything else.

But when she saw the cold expression on Maurice's face, she couldn't say the words.

She knew that if she dared to agree, Maurice wouldn't let her go easily.

Which should she choose? The ring, or her life?

She didn't know. She just wanted to eat dinner like

this awkward moment never happened.

She raised her hand and accidentally knocked over the glass in front of her. Wine splashed all over her clothes.

The icy air was disturbed. Maurice and Eli both looked at her.

Eliana stood. "I'm sorry. All of you just enjoy the meal. I'll clean up in the bathroom."

"I'll go with you."

Inger followed her to the bathroom.

As soon as the two of them left, Maurice dropped his facade.

He suddenly seemed to radiate a murderous aura.

"I want that ring," Maurice said in a powerful voice.
"Name your price."

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[THE ADORABLE TWINS AND THEIR CEO DADDY](#)

Chapter 240 You Have No Idea What Eliana Is Like



The two women were both in the bathroom at the same time, with Eliana cleaning her dirty clothing and Inger applying her make-up.

"I would want to speak with you, Miss Pierce. Would you be interested in a conversation?"

In the silence of the restroom, Inger said abruptly.

"Ms. Sumner, I'm all ears." Eliana paused and used a tissue to clean her hands.

"Miss Pierce, please accept my apologies on Eli's behalf."

Inger's face was filled with pity the following minute as she was lost in her recollection.

"Eli grew up in a welfare facility. He has no one to call family. He was just accompanied by a dog. Because of its age, the dog became ill. He worked several jobs to earn enough money to cover the costs of the dog's medical care. Consequently, a talent scout discovered him and brought him into the entertainment industry. Unfortunately, his companion dog did not survive."

What Eli stated turned out to be true.

In the end, it was only then that Eliana realized she

hadn't been misled by Eli in the greenroom earlier that morning.

Inger was quite chatty.

"Eli eventually came upon Lucky by chance later on. He was a lot more content and self-assured as a result. He believed the ring was pretty worthless, so he wore it every day and said it was a lucky charm. You can't hold it against him because he hasn't returned you the ring. Since he doesn't have many possessions, he is unwilling to return it to you."

"He's not to blame, Inger Sumner."

Eliana let out a sigh.

Eli resembled a person who had not fully matured. To him, having nothing in his life meant that, when something good came along, it couldn't stay away

from him for a second.

In the restaurant's private room, the two guys seemed hostile toward one another. They couldn't settle down anywhere since Maurice said it.

"You're very kind, Mr. Moran. For the sake of making Eliana happy, you're prepared to part with your hard-earned cash in order to purchase an old ring. Is it worthwhile to do such a thing for her?"

When Eli assumed Maurice purchased a ring for Eliana's sake, he was consumed with jealousy.

"That's not important for you to know." An arrogant Maurice sat erect in his chair.

"Huh? Mr. Moran, are you aware that Eliana shared a bed and slept with me?" Eli uttered malignantly.

Maurice's pupils dilated and he was nearly unable to maintain his composure.

"A lady like Eliana is simple to fool. She will be friendly and sympathetic to those who seem vulnerable in her presence. She'll be as obedient as a puppy if she's given a few more perks."

Because Eli hoped that Maurice would loathe Eliana, he concocted these falsehoods.

After that, he could...

Actually, Eli didn't dare to devote much more thought to what he could achieve.

But to his amazement, Maurice had a smile on his face and he couldn't help laughing.

"What's funny about this?" Eli was perplexed by

Maurice.

What was so funny to Maurice?

His incompetence made Maurice laugh. Just now, he was enraged to see Eli hugging Eliana, and he snapped at her.

Up until this point, he was unaware that Eli had played a trick.

"Eli, you have no idea what Eliana is like. She will never be the person you described. If not, you will not make every effort to keep her at your side."

Maurice saw through Eli's scheme and said, "You are so sad, Eli," in a casual manner.

"Maurice!"

Eli was infuriated to the point that he couldn't stand it any longer. He attacked Maurice like a lion in a rage...

Eliana and Inger had just emerged from the restroom at that very time.

They heard a loud commotion coming from inside the private room before they even got to the door.

Hell had broken loose!

Both Eliana and Inger rushed to the door and opened it after looking at one another.

Eli fell awkwardly on the floor in the private room, sustaining facial injuries. He had a befuddled expression on his face.

Maurice, on the other hand, stood stoically at a distance, staring down at Eli with a sneering smirk.

Everything before them was crystal-clear. They could tell that a vicious individual had just brutally assaulted a victim.

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