

Adorable 471

[Chapter 471 He Is My Man](#)

Maurice couldn't help but smile discreetly as he looked at Eliana who was staring at the tie.

She was quite generous this time. She was willing to spend so much money just to buy him a gift!

When he took the tie, he felt a warm feeling in his heart, which made him happy.

Once they had paid the bill, they had both changed into new clothes. Maurice looked refreshed, while Eliana was completely withered. After all, she had just spent a veritable fortune!

"Since we're done shopping, let's get out of here now!" said Eliana in a feeble voice.

Smiling, Maurice followed her leisurely.

They were going to leave the mall when Eliana realized that there were a lot of people around her. These people all seemed to be looking at something. She looked up and saw an eye-catching sign hanging in front of her, which read, "There's a big discount on food at the supermarket."

Eliana's eyes lit up when she saw that.

Immediately, she turned to look at Maurice and said seriously, "Maurice, you go first! I need to go to the supermarket."

After saying that, she was about to run forward, but was stopped by him.

"What do you mean by leaving me here alone? Besides, you do not need to buy things at a discount."

"You don't understand!" Eliana blurted out before ruthlessly shaking off Maurice's hand. Then she rushed to the supermarket which was already full of people.

Maurice was speechless. He couldn't let her go there alone, so he decided to follow her to the supermarket.

When he walked into the supermarket, a group of middle-aged women quickly noticed him.

"Wow, what a handsome young man!" one of the women muttered.

Maurice was indeed a handsome man, and wherever he went, he was noticed by women. As soon as he entered the supermarket, the middle-aged women around him were fascinated by him. They soon forgot what they were here for and surrounded him.

"Hey, handsome. Who are you? How come I've never seen you before?"

"How old are you, handsome? Do you have a girlfriend? My daughter is still single..."

Maurice felt the anger rise in him as he was pushed around by these women.

What was Eliana doing?

Well, since Maurice's presence had attracted most of the women, Eliana had the opportunity to grab a lot more food.

However, she looked occasionally in Maurice's direction and noticed that he was about to lose his patience. His face was gloomy, indicating that anger was boiling inside him. Seeing this, Eliana finally decided to go back to him.

"Back off!" Eliana roared as she stood in front of Maurice.

"Hey, who the hell are you?" one of the middle-aged women asked Eliana with contempt.

"I'm his girlfriend. Now back off from my man!"

Although it was a lie, Eliana said it with such conviction that it was impossible not to believe her.

Hearing this, the women quickly walked away and went their separate ways.

Maurice was furious just now and had planned to teach Eliana a good lesson. But when he heard her say he was her man, his anger vanished immediately.

After she scrambled for food, Eliana's hair was a mess. She even still had a cabbage leaf stuck in her hair. Although she looked scruffy, she was so excited as if she had won a grand prize.

Maurice was amused to see her like this and joked, "Why are you so happy? What's the fun in fighting for discounted stuffs?"

"You are never short of money, so you can't understand! I have been able to get a week's food, saving at least 300 dollars! That's equal to making 300 dollars!" Eliana said with a wide smile. She was clearly overjoyed.

Maurice gazed fondly at Eliana's smug expression and naturally reached out to touch her head.

However, before his hand could touch her, she subconsciously stretched out her hand to stop him. "What are you doing?" Eliana asked vigilantly.

Maurice ignored her and took the cabbage leaf off her head. He shook it in front of her eyes and said with a helpless sigh, "See?"

Seeing that, Eliana blushed.

She had thought that Maurice wanted to kiss her in this public place.

She looked at Maurice, feeling a little embarrassed now. She couldn't help but notice that when he wasn't angry, he looked quite like Preston.

There was something about Preston that made her want to get close to him. However, Maurice only made her want to run away.

Maurice and Eliana then went to pay the bill silently.

Coincidentally, Eliana met the cashier who waived the bill for her and her children last time.

Eliana asked curiously, "Uh... Hello! Is there an activity like the one I participated in before that can make the goods free of charge?"

"Free of charge?" The cashier looked at Eliana up and down carefully and said, "Oh, it's you! You're the customer whose goods were free of charge last time, right?"

Eliana nodded. "I just want to know if I can get the food free this time again."

The cashier was confused and explained, "Don't you know? In fact, there has never been any activity to get free goods. Last time, the boss of the mall took care of your bills himself."

Upon hearing that, Eliana was utterly stunned.

The owner of this shopping mall? Wasn't it Maurice himself?

Eliana turned her head and stared at Maurice in shock.

It turned out he didn't let her pay last time! And she never knew about it!

If she hadn't found out by accident, would he have ever told her the truth?

"Maurice, did you..."

"No," Maurice denied at once, without even waiting for her to finish her question.

Eliana frowned and said again, "But..."

"Don't say anything more. Let's go."

Maurice felt awkward and directly dragged Eliana away.

He didn't want Eliana to find out that he had watched over her in secret.

[Chapter 472 Loneliness](#)

It was already late when Maurice and Eliana came out of the mall. And since they bought too many things, he directly drove her home.

At this time, Nana had already picked up Adrian and Aileen from kindergarten. When she saw Eliana approaching, she and the twins waited at the door to welcome Eliana home.

"Hey, kids, look what Mommy has bought for you."

Eliana had several shopping bags in her hands. But there were still many shopping bags left in the car that even Corbin got out of the driver's seat to help.

Aileen and Adrian ran to Eliana and hugged her thighs, looking at her up and down nervously. Adrian looked more worried. He was afraid that Maurice might have bullied Eliana.

"Eliana, are you okay?" Nana asked worriedly, also looking at Eliana. "Aileen and Adrian told me that Maurice bullied you again. Let me..."

Nana was about to say that she wanted to scold Maurice. But when she saw Corbin carrying bags of things from the trunk, she was suddenly at a loss for words.

It turned out that Maurice went shopping with Eliana. Although she didn't think it was good to scold someone who had just bought them a lot of things, she didn't want her best friend to suffer any grievances.

But she noticed that Eliana and Maurice got along quite well. So she simply pulled Corbin to the side and asked in a low voice, "What exactly had happened between Maurice and Eliana today?"

Corbin glanced at Eliana and Maurice, who never talked all the way here, and sighed, "It's a long story."

While Corbin and Nana were whispering in the corner, Maurice was embarrassed to face Eliana and the twins alone.

Aileen didn't greet him warmly like usual.

Instead, she hugged Eliana's thigh and peeked at him from time to time. She must have been frightened by what had happened this morning.

Maurice couldn't help reaching out his hand, wanting to touch Aileen's head.

But as soon as Aileen saw him move, she immediately hid behind Eliana.

He paused for a while, and then silently withdrew his hand.

Adrian looked at the shopping bags on the ground with disgust and snapped, "Do you think you can buy us off with these things? No way!"

When Eliana saw Adrian's and Aileen's indifferent attitude towards Maurice, she felt a little sad. However, she was not in the mood to intervene.

"Thank you for all of these. I'm tired, and I want to rest now. You should leave."

Then she took the two children upstairs wearily.

Maurice watched the three's receding backs, feeling empty in his heart. It was as if he had lost something important. There was a feeling of loneliness in his heart that he had never felt before.

Before Corbin left with Maurice, Nana learned what had happened this morning from him.

So she walked into Eliana's room and asked worriedly, "Eliana, are you okay?"

Lying on the bed, Eliana looked at her with a forced smile and said, "I'm fine."

"You don't have to act tough in front of me. Tell me the truth. Are you going to accept Maurice as Adrian and Aileen's father?" Nana asked.

Eliana looked at her in surprise. "Why do you think so?"

"If not, why did Earle come to you? I also heard from Corbin that Earle wanted to take the kids into the Moran family's house. Does that mean he's starting to like you?"

Obviously, Nana was still not totally convinced.

Eliana smiled bitterly and replied, "No. Earle doesn't even know I'm the kids' mother."

"What?" A trace of disappointment was written all over Nana's face. "So he still doesn't like you?"

"Yes," Eliana answered, trying hard to hold back her sadness. "And it's precisely because of his attitude towards me that I am more certain that Maurice and I can never be together."

Nana didn't know what else to say to comfort Eliana, so she could only reach out and hug her.

"It's okay. Eliana. I'm here. You and the kids have me. At worst, I will support you and the kids for the rest of my life."

Eliana smiled, got up from the bed, and rested her head on Nana's shoulder. Mixed emotions filled her heart.

A relationship without the family members' blessings wouldn't last.

Maybe she and Maurice were really not destined to be together.

[Chapter 473 Sunflowers](#)

The next day, Eliana woke up early to prepare Adrian's and Aileen's schoolbags. She was about to send them to school, but when she opened the door, she saw a luxurious Lincoln parked outside.

"What is this car doing here?"

While Eliana was confused, the car door opened, and the driver got out.

He walked straight to Eliana and said respectfully, "Miss Pierce, Mr. Moran sent me to pick up your children. I'll drive them to kindergarten."

Maurice ordered his people to take Aileen and Adrian to kindergarten?

But why?

Eliana subconsciously hid the two children behind her.

Although Maurice didn't know the identity of the twins yet, she still felt uneasy about leaving them with his people.

The driver seemed to have already anticipated she would react like this, so he explained, "Miss Pierce, please rest assured. Mr. Jenkins has told me to pick up the two children to school from now on to avoid unnecessary trouble between you and the chairman."

It turned out that this was Corbin's arrangement.

Eliana felt a little relieved upon hearing this.

This was indeed the best way to avoid Earle from further contacting the two children.

"Okay, thank you."

After thinking about it for a while, she compromised.

"By the way, Mr. Moran also told me one thing," said the driver.

Then he opened the rear door and took out a large bunch of fresh sunflowers. The bright color was particularly vibrant under the morning sunlight, making people happy at the sight of it.

Eliana was dumbfounded. Was Maurice intending to send flowers to her?

However, the driver handed the sunflowers to Aileen beside her.

"Mr. Moran specially asked me to give this to you."

Adrian snorted disdainfully and turned his head away.

Aileen took the sunflowers, but she was still confused.

Was it a gift from that handsome Maurice?

Was it because she painted the sunflower on his trousers yesterday?

Aileen carefully touched the bright sunflowers and suddenly found a small pink card hidden inside them.

When she took it out, she saw a cute crying kitten painted in a childish style. And beside the kitten were three words, "I am sorry."

It turned out that Maurice was apologizing to her.

Aileen's mood immediately turned sunny. There was a sweet smile on her face again.

When Eliana saw the happy expression on Aileen's face, she couldn't help but feel curious.

She wondered what was written on the card. How could Maurice make Aileen so happy?

"Aileen, may I see it?"

Eliana stretched out her hand, wanting to take the card from Aileen's hand.

"No." Aileen quickly held the card in her arms and said, "Mr. Moran gave this to me. I won't show it even to you."

"You're really petty."

Eliana felt a little jealous, but she didn't say anything more.

Anyway, she also hoped that the two children could get along well with Maurice.

She let the two children get in the car and watched them disappear from her sight before setting off for the company.

As soon as she entered the Design Department, Lucia rushed over to her, held her hand, and asked, "Eliana, how was it? What happened yesterday? Was the matter resolved?"

Eliana smiled. "Well... Yes, it was resolved."

"That's good then." Lucia breathed a sigh of relief. But after a short while, she became anxious again. "Then let's go find Harriet and solve the problem with the design of the bracelet."

"Okay, let's go." Eliana's expression suddenly became solemn.

She and Lucia walked to the door of Harriet's office. But before they could enter, they were stopped by Harriet's assistant.

"You're not allowed to enter now."

"Why not? We must see Miss Stone now. It's something very important."

Eliana couldn't give in just like that. If she didn't make things clear about the bracelet today, it might be too late.

"No, you can't go in." The assistant stood in front of them. "Miss Stone is busy with Mr. Moran inside now. They have ordered that no one should disturb them."

Was Maurice really inside?

If that was the case, Eliana couldn't do anything about it.

"Eliana, what should we do now?" Lucia asked anxiously.

"We will wait," Eliana replied through clenched teeth. "I won't give up just like that."

[Chapter 474 Plo](#)

Eliana and Lucia waited at the door of Harriet's office, refusing to leave.

Harriet's assistant also stood there, watching them the whole time. When she saw that the two of them were so determined, she began to speak in a voice dripping with sarcasm.

"I don't know why some people still have the nerve to stand here. Really shameless!"

Although she didn't name names, Eliana and Lucia knew that she was referring to them.

But Lucia was in a bad mood, so she snapped, "Who are you referring to?"

The assistant's words made her even more furious.

The assistant sneered coldly, "You know who I am referring to."

"And what are you trying to say? If you have something to say, say it. I'm listening."

Eliana didn't want to cause any trouble. But she wouldn't shrink back when she was being bullied.

"Okay, Miss Pierce, I'll be frank with you then. Do you know what Miss Stone and Mr. Moran are talking about inside right now?" said the assistant.

"What?" Eliana asked in confusion.

"She and Mr. Moran are talking about the development of the land near the Moon Lake Manor. At the party in the manor last time, you embarrassed and offended Mr. Stone. The Stone family is not very happy with this cooperation now. And it has taken Miss Stone a lot of effort to talk to them and convince them to continue it. Now you want to mess it up again? I think you only want to ruin the cooperation between the two companies."

Eliana almost could not digest so much information that she learned all at once.

She had vaguely heard someone from the company mention that the Stone and Moran Groups cooperated to develop the land.

Coincidentally, she also knew something about the inside story of that land.

Before the Pierce family went bankrupt, the Pierce Group had several factories built on that land.

Her family valued that land so much that they had considered cooperating with others to develop it and build a theme park.

But unfortunately, the government didn't approve it because of the ancient buildings near the area.

And even if they were approved, the cost of development and construction would be very high because they needed to protect those ancient buildings. The Pierce family could not afford it, so her father had to give up in the end.

Eliana didn't expect that even a wealthy family like the Moran family still had to cooperate with the Stone family to develop the land.

Inside Harriet's office, she and Maurice were discussing the press conference that their families would hold in the afternoon.

"Mr. Moran, today is the big day for our families. And my uncle will be here later. But he and Eliana had some conflicts before. So if you mind, I can persuade him not to come."

Harriet pretended to mention that incident casually.

"Do you think it's necessary?"

Maurice sat on the sofa, carefully reading the documents for his speech. He didn't even raise his head when he spoke.

It seemed that Eliana really didn't matter much to him.

Harriet smiled happily. "I knew you won't mind."

This time, Maurice raised his head expressionlessly. "I mean, the cooperation between the Stone family and Moran family has been settled. Is it necessary for your uncle to come?"

Harriet's expression became still. She forced a smile and said, "This is the first cooperation between our families, and the media will be there. To show that the Stone family attaches great importance to this, he will be here, of course."

"Oh, really?"

Maurice stared at Harriet. A bad feeling rose in his heart.

Why was she so enthusiastic about inviting her uncle to the press conference? There must be something behind it.

Soon, Maurice found the answer.

Corbin, standing next to him, suddenly received a message.

After Corbin read it, the look on his face drastically changed.

He immediately bent over and whispered in Maurice's ear, "Boss, I just got the news. Your grandfather is on his way for the press conference."

His grandfather was coming too?

Maurice didn't think this was good.

Then something flashed in his mind. And he understood it all at once.

In recent years, Earle had never intervened in the management of Moran Group unless it was something big. It was just a press conference for the development of a theme park. Did Earle really have to be there personally?

But since he was coming, there must be another reason. It was probably not because of the cooperation between the Stone family and the Moran family.

Earle might have another purpose.

Maurice carefully recalled what Harriet had said.

This was just a small press conference, but the elders of both families would be there.

There must be a plot here.

[Chapter 475 There Was A Storm Brewing](#)

"Mr. Moran, what do you think?" Harriet asked as she looked searchingly at Maurice.

"Well, since your uncle wants to come, let him be."

Maurice looked calm and collected, but he was prepared for all eventualities.

It seemed like there was a storm brewing.

Seeing that Maurice had agreed, Harriet secretly let out a sigh and then smiled.

Gerald had given her a general idea. She had already invited her uncle and Earle to the press conference where her engagement to Maurice would be announced.

With regard to Maurice... Gerald had assured her that he wouldn't dare object so long as Earle was attending the event.

By then the whole world would know that she was going to be Maurice's wife—and no one could stop it.

As Maurice was deeply engrossed in his thoughts, so was Harriet. Eliana, on the other hand, was thinking about the land.

She remembered quite well what her father had once told her. He said, "When you have the land, the future of the whole city is in your hands."

With this in her mind, she knew how important the cooperation must be to Maurice and the Moran Group.

Yet, Eliana shuddered at the thought of what would happen should something go wrong in the cooperation between the Stone family and the Moran family, and she was the cause.

She knew the consequences would be unthinkable.

Wrapped up in her thoughts, Eliana looked dazed. Seeing her like this, Harriet's assistant laughingly made a snide remark. "So now you realize the seriousness of the matter. How ignorant!"

"Don't you go too far!"

Lucia couldn't stand it anymore so she retorted.

"Arg! Just forget it!"

Eliana grabbed Lucia's arm. She didn't want to make a scene at this moment.

"What's wrong with you?"

At that moment, Harriet opened the door and walked out of the office, followed by Maurice.

Eliana raised her head and found herself looking straight into Maurice's eyes. She opened her mouth, wanting to say something.

But Harriet was quick on her feet. She got herself between Eliana and Maurice so that she was able to break eye contact between the two.

"Miss Pierce, are you here for the bracelet?"

Harriet was looking straight at Eliana.

"Yes, Miss Stone, Mr. Moran, there's something that I'd like to ask about the design of the bracelet..."

"You know, we can talk about it now," Harriet cut in. "Mr. Moran however has to prepare for the press conference in the afternoon and he must not be disturbed. So it will just be the two of us."

She then grabbed Eliana's arm and took her to the meeting room.

Lucia followed but she was stopped at the door of the meeting room. "Look, you're just an intern," said Harriet's assistant. "Miss Stone has explicitly said that she and Miss Pierce will talk in private. So, get on with your work."

"But..."

Lucia began to fidget. She didn't know what to do.

Her anxiousness made Maurice take a second look at her. He thought she looked familiar, and it dawned on him.

He turned to Corbin and asked, "Isn't she Wyatt's cousin? She's... what's her name? Lucia... isn't it?"

"Yes, she is Wyatt's cousin," Corbin replied, looking at the uneasy Lucia.

He wondered why Eliana was with Lucia.

Seeing Corbin's reaction, Maurice frowned.

"Boss, do you think something will happen to Eliana?" Corbin asked.

He was feeling a bit worried. He thought of what Harriet had done to Eliana before.

Corbin knew that Harriet, being sneaky, cunning, and crafty, would do anything to get her way. She could be nasty to Eliana, knowing that they were rivals in love.

So he started to walk towards the meeting room to see for himself what Harriet was up to.

But he couldn't go any farther as Maurice grabbed his arm to stop him.

"No," Maurice said forcefully. "We have a press conference this afternoon. An important press conference. We should focus on it first."

Corbin considered what Maurice had said and thought that it made sense.

But if Harriet's plan worked, things would go really bad.

"Boss, what should we do now?"

Maurice frowned. "The top priority now is to stop the elders of the two families from coming here," he said in a serious tone. "Do whatever it takes to keep them away from the press conference this afternoon."

"But, boss... That would be disobeying your grandfather. Is that what you're doing?"

Corbin looked at Maurice quizzically.

Maurice's expression darkened. "Can you think of another way to do it?"

Corbin was stumped.

The afternoon's press conference was so important to the Moran Group that it had to push through no matter what. There was no option other than trying to stop the elders of the two families.

But...

[Chapter 476 Find A Factory](#)

Looking embarrassed, Corbin said seriously to Maurice, "Boss, this matter may be a bit complicated. The chairman's assistant taught me everything I know today, so I may not be able to..."

"How about a pay raise?" Maurice said calmly.

Upon hearing that his boss was ready to give him a raise, Corbin's eyes lit up.

He was so excited that he almost agreed.

However, he managed to control himself. In fact, Corbin saw this as an opportunity for a serious salary raise.

"Boss, it's not about money. Aleck is really awesome," Corbin said again.

"Really?" Maurice said leisurely, raising a brow. Of course he could clearly see what was on Corbin's mind. "Forget it. I'll deal with it myself. I just have to stall my grandpa. It shouldn't be difficult. I will even save myself some money."

"No way!" Corbin immediately refused.

Maurice suppressed a smile and said seriously, "What's wrong? Didn't you say that you couldn't do it?"

"How can I let you bother yourself with such a trifle? Don't worry. I'll take care of it. I promise you I won't let Kelvin and the chairman near the Moran Group building!"

Corbin feared that Maurice would go back on his word and refuse to offer him a raise, so he quickly agreed to take care of this task.

Maurice laughed and said leisurely, "Remember, keep an eye on Eliana. I want you to reassure her if there's any bad news!"

"Yes, sir!" Corbin nodded and then left.

In the meeting room, Eliana and Harriet were sitting across from each other.

"How's it going, Eliana?" Lucia shouted from outside the meeting room. She had no intention of leaving.

"Miss Stone, Lucia is my partner. I think it's necessary that she joins our conversation," Eliana said calmly to Harriet.

"Of course. Let her in," Harriet replied with a smile.

She had initially planned to just deal with Eliana. However, she had now come up with another plan and changed her mind.

"Lucia, come in," Eliana shouted to the door.

Lucia quickly opened the door and entered the meeting room. She walked over to Eliana and sat down beside her.

Now that everyone was there, the discussion began.

"Mr. Stone, I'll go straight to the point. Why was my design modified without my permission?" Eliana asked, point blank.

She looked imposing at this moment.

Harriet wasn't intimidated and said calmly, "Miss Pierce, I knew this matter. But you have to understand that this bracelet will be mass-produced. Some changes are needed."

Eliana frowned and argued, "I get that, but shouldn't you ask for my opinion before making any changes on the design? If I had known that you would modify the bracelet I designed, I wouldn't have agreed to take the project." She was really furious.

Harriet scoffed, "Are you threatening me? If you don't want to work on this project, there are many talented designers who will be more than willing to replace you." Harriet then looked at Lucia and said, "Lucia, from now on, you will be responsible for this project alone."

Lucia was stunned. She looked at Harriet with wide eyes and blurted out, "Me?"

"Yes. Lucia, you should know that such an opportunity doesn't present itself every day. You are just an intern designer. If you succeed in this project, you could land a contract and become a permanent designer here. You can think about it before you give me your answer."

"No! I refuse!" Lucia said without hesitation.

She came here to experience life. She didn't mind losing her job here. But she couldn't betray her friend just for a job.

Harriet didn't expect that Lucia would refuse, let alone that she would do so without thinking twice. She was so stunned that almost lost her composure. "Are you really going to pass on such an opportunity?"

"Yes," Lucia said firmly.

Harriet flew into a rage.

What was so special about Eliana? Why did everyone like her?

Eliana glanced at Lucia, who was sitting beside her. She was deeply touched by Lucia's loyalty and support.

Meanwhile, a deep rage burned inside Harriet's heart. Her plan had failed. She pretended to be helpless and said, "Well, since you're so determined, I'll reconsider my decision. If you can find a factory to mass-produce the bracelet by yourselves, then you won't have to modify the design."

Eliana was stunned when she heard Harriet's words. How could they find a factory to mass-produce the bracelet?

Obviously, Harriet was making things difficult for them on purpose.

After thinking it over for a while, Eliana understood what Harriet was up to.

She winked at Lucia, indicating that they shouldn't make any rash decisions and should back off for now.

However, Lucia misunderstood it.

In fact, she thought Eliana was asking her to say yes!

"Okay! We agree!" Lucia said at once.

Eliana gasped.

Damn it!

Why? Why did she agree?

[Chapter 477 The Old Factory](#)

Lucia turned her head and looked at Eliana. It was as if she was saying that everything was under her control.

Eliana held her forehead speechlessly, thinking that Lucia was really a silly girl.

However, Lucia had already said it, and there was no turning back.

"Miss Pierce, do you also agree?" Harriet asked, feeling complacent.

Seeing that the matter was a foregone conclusion, Eliana could only grit her teeth and say, "I can agree. But if I can really find a processing factory, you should immediately make Lucia a regular employee, and I should also be promoted. And from now on, no one is allowed to change my design drawing."

Eliana's attitude was tough. Anyway, things had already reached this point. So she had to fight for her best interests now.

She seemed to have learned to be smarter.

Harriet pondered for a while, carefully considering the pros and cons. Then she replied, "Okay. I agree with your conditions. But..."

"But what?" Eliana asked with a frown, wondering what kind of trick Harriet wanted to play.

"Since you have put forward so many demands, I will add two conditions. If you can't do it, you have to leave Moran Group. That means you have to take the initiative to resign. You also have to take responsibility for all the losses of delaying the production of the bracelet."

Harriet's purpose was clear. She was forcing Eliana to leave the Moran Group and Maurice.

"No, Eliana. You can't agree to such ridiculous conditions," Lucia chimed in.

She noticed that Harriet and Eliana were secretly competing. And Harriet was deliberately making things difficult for Eliana.

"Why? Are you afraid?" Harriet asked defiantly.

In desperation, Eliana gritted her teeth, made up her mind, and agreed.

"Okay, we have a deal."

After discussing for a while, they finally reached a resolution to the issue of the bracelet.

Lucia was in a good mood, but Eliana looked gloomy. Holding the last glimmer of hope in her heart, she asked, "Lucia, do you know a factory that can take over the production of the bracelet?"

"No," Lucia replied, looking confused.

Eliana was stunned upon hearing this. She asked, "But why did you agree to Harriet's condition at first?"

"You were so domineering just now. I thought it was because you have a solution, so I agreed," Lucia explained.

Eliana didn't know whether to laugh or to cry.

They were in big trouble now.

The expression on Eliana's face made Lucia vaguely realize that she had made a mistake. She suddenly panicked. "Eliana, did I make trouble for you? What should we do now?"

She couldn't help blaming herself. For her, it didn't matter if she lost her job. But if Eliana was fired because of her, she would really feel very guilty.

"It's okay. Don't worry too much about it. We'll do our best. How can we know the result if we don't give it a try?" Eliana said, comforting Lucia.

Actually, she had some ideas about the factory.

She remembered that when the Pierce Group was still operational, they had a factory for jewelry production. But she didn't know if it was still there.

Eliana immediately took out her phone and looked for the phone number of the Pierce Group's old factory.

She dialed the number, and her call was soon connected.

"Hello! May I speak with Elliot Potter of the production workshop?"

Elliot was the person in charge of the factory back then. Eliana had met him a few times when she was a child, so she considered him an acquaintance.

"I am sorry. There is no Elliot Potter in our factory. May I know what the matter is? Maybe I can help you."

When she got a negative answer, Eliana sighed silently in her heart. It seemed that she couldn't possibly find an acquaintance to help her.

"Here is the thing. My name is Eliana Pierce. I'm a jewelry designer in Moran Group. I have a big order now, and I'm looking for a factory that can process and produce bracelets. Are you interested in it? I can send you the design draft later."

Despite her disappointment, she still couldn't help trying her luck.

But the man on the other end of the line didn't seem to be very interested.

He responded coldly, "Okay. You can send me the design draft first, and I'll show it to the person in

charge. We will think about it. Just wait for our call."

Then he simply hung up the phone.

Eliana stared at her phone and smiled bitterly.

Sure enough, everything had changed. When the Pierce Group went bankrupt, she lost everything.

Lucia couldn't bear to see the disappointment on Eliana's face, so she stepped forward to comfort her.

"Eliana, don't be discouraged. If this one doesn't work, we can find another factory."

"Don't worry about me. I understand."

Eliana forcibly suppressed the disappointment in her heart. She had to cheer herself up. Otherwise, she would be driven out of the Moran Group.

At this moment, a voice suddenly interjected, "What are you two talking about?"

[Chapter 478 The Plan To Stop Kelvin](#)

"Ah!"

Lucia was so scared that she jumped up.

Eliana also started. When she clearly saw who it was, she walked straight up, tapped his forehead and asked angrily, "Damn, Corbin, what the hell are you doing? Why did you sneak in here?"

Corbin patiently explained, "I didn't sneak in. You were so serious, discussing something and you didn't notice me."

Frowning, Eliana asked, "Well, why are you here?"

"I have something to ask you to do. I want you two to go sort through the documents in the Design Department this afternoon. Don't run around."

"You want us to go sort out the documents?" Eliana muttered in confusion.

She sensed something was wrong. She was a jewelry designer! Why did Corbin ask her to work as an assistant? And why did he specifically insist that they shouldn't run around this afternoon?

Eliana remembered that this afternoon, the Moran Group was going to hold a press conference.

Did Corbin mean that Maurice didn't want her to show up at the press conference?

Eliana thought she probably had guessed right.

Lucia had also figured it out. Being a straightforward person, she questioned Corbin directly, "Mr. Jenkins, don't you want us to go to the press conference this afternoon?"

Eliana stared intently at Corbin. She also wanted to know if she had guessed right.

Corbin felt nervous at the way the two women were staring at him.

He quickly shook his head and denied their guess. "No, you are thinking too much."

However, Eliana was not fooled. Seeing the guilty look on Corbin's face, she thought about the reason for this press conference. It was intended to formalize the cooperation between the Moran family and the Stone family. She also remembered the scene of Maurice and Harriet walking out of the office together earlier.

She also thought of the ring Maurice gave to Harriet at the restaurant.

Eliana's mind slowly put all the pieces of the puzzle together. Suddenly, she looked at Corbin seriously and asked, point blank, "Corbin, will Maurice announce his engagement to Harriet at the press conference?"

The moment those words came out, Eliana felt cold all over. She should have known this was inevitable. After all, the best way to bind the two families together was through marriage.

Corbin didn't expect that Eliana would think of this and he felt a chill all over. He quickly denied it. "Absolutely not. Mr. Moran would never think of doing such a thing. Eliana, you must trust Mr. Moran. He will handle everything well."

Eliana sneered and didn't say anything.

"So, do you agree to go sort out the documents this afternoon?" Corbin asked tentatively.

"Yes, I'll get to it right away."

With an expressionless face, Eliana strode forward.

However, Lucia was not as obedient as Eliana. She looked Corbin in the eye and said angrily, "I'm not going! Why do you want us to disappear? Why should we disappear? Mr. Moran likes to bully people too much. I want to talk to him face to face!"

Corbin felt annoyed and tried to calm her down. "Please calm down. If you want to help, you better help me keep an eye on Eliana."

"Help you? What do you mean?" Lucia asked confusedly.

Corbin then told Lucia the whole story.

"Oh! So that's why you and Mr. Moran do not want Eliana to be at the press conference!" Lucia exclaimed after she heard the explanation from Corbin!

"So, do you want to help me now?" Corbin asked again.

"Of course!"

After her discussion with Eliana, Harriet ran to the company gate and waited for Kelvin and Earle to arrive.

Suddenly, her phone rang. It was a call from Kelvin.

Harriet quickly picked the call. "Harriet, I'm afraid I can't come to the press conference this afternoon..." The man's voice rang out from the other end of the line.

He couldn't come! Harriet panicked and asked, "Why can't you come?"

On the other end of the phone, Kelvin was very nervous. He had gotten himself into trouble.

He had seduced a married woman before and that caught up with him today. The woman's husband showed up in his house today to settle his scores with him. Kelvin was about to go out when he was blocked at the door by that man. The man didn't come alone. He came with a large group of people.

These people seemed to have carefully prepared their response. They even came with several journalists.

"Now these people have besieged my house. I can't go out at all..." Kelvin explained in a sad voice.

Harriet was almost driven mad.

Her uncle was really a good-for-nothing who never accomplished anything but always screwed things up.

She was determined to make him pay bitterly if he screwed up her plan.

Harriet was so furious that she gnashed her teeth and cursed her unreliable uncle in her heart.

After thinking it over, she felt something was wrong.

Kelvin had always been a skirt-chaser. Why was it only today, when she needed him most, that karma

came back at him?

Did someone do it on purpose?

If so, then the person behind it didn't want him to show up at the Moran Group.

The more Harriet thought about it, the more she felt it must be. Her expression gradually changed and she looked ferocious.

What she didn't know was that at this very moment, the people behind what had happened to her uncle were hiding in the grass nearby and were secretly watching her.

Seeing Harriet's fierce expression, Corbin and Lucia knew something had happened to Harriet's uncle.

The two of them looked at each other with joy on their faces.

The first stage of the plan had been a resounding success.

[Chapter 479 The Simplest Trick](#)

Lucia let out a sigh of relief when she noticed how flustered Harriet looked. She looked over at Corbin and said, "Kevin definitely won't come. What do you plan on doing?"

Unfortunately, Corbin didn't feel as optimistic as she did. He was aware that stopping Kevin wouldn't be able to stop Harriet. It was someone else they had to stop.

"Don't get too excited just yet. The most important thing is to find a way to stop the chairman. I'm afraid he's not as gullible as Kelvin."

At his words, Lucia found herself in a dilemma. She heard about how powerful Earle was.

While the two were busy worrying, an idea suddenly flashed through Lucia's mind.

"I know what to do!"

Corbin was taken aback by her sudden outburst.

"What's on your mind?"

"I have an idea! I know how to stop Earle!" Lucia's eyes lit up as she explained, "If we overcomplicate things, Earle will see through it. We'd better use the simplest trick in the book. Our task is to stop him, am I right? The only thing we need to do is to prevent him from going to the Moran Group!"

"The simplest trick..."

Corbin rubbed his chin as he mulled over Lucia's proposal. An idea also came to him at that moment.

"Yes! That makes sense! I know what we should do."

Around that time, Earle was on his way to the Moran Group with his luxury motorcade.

Inside one of the cars, Earle was seated in the back seat and took a moment to close his eyes and get some rest.

All of a sudden, the driver pressed down on the brakes, and the car halted to a stop.

Earle's eyes flashed open as he asked, "Why did we stop?"

Aleck, seated next to him, stared out the window and commented, "Mr. Moran, there's a traffic jam ahead. It's difficult for our cars to pass through at the moment."

"There's a traffic jam?" Earle glanced at his watch and his brows furrowed. "That would be too late. Leave the motorcade and take another road. The press conference is about to start, and there's no way to delay it."

"Yes, you're right." Aleck turned to the driver and said, "We need to change our route. Take another road."

Quickly after, the Rolls-Royce Earle was in left the motorcade, changed routes and found a road clear of cars to travel.

However, things wouldn't go as they planned. Four black cars suddenly surrounded their vehicle.

Earle had experienced many strange things over the years, and he immediately knew that there was something ominous about the cars surrounding them.

"Something doesn't seem right. Why are these cars surrounding us?"

Aleck also found the situation suspicious and quickly rolled down his window.

The Rolls-Royce had no choice but to deviate from their route because the four cars boxed it in. They ended up traveling in the opposite direction.

Earle moved closer to his window and observed the cars with his sharp eyes.

Those cars... Why did they look so familiar?

Understanding bloomed on Earle's face. He exclaimed, "These are the cars of the Moran Group!"

"Why would the Moran Group stop us?" Aleck was bewildered.

"What else could it mean?" After realizing what had happened, Earle was so furious that he thumped his cane down. "This must be Maurice's doing. He wants to stop me from attending the press conference today!"

"Mr. Moran, what should we do now? Perhaps..."

No matter how resourceful Aleck was, he couldn't find a way out of this situation.

How dare Maurice stand in his way!

The more Earle thought about it, the angrier he became. He began to shout at the cars surrounding them.

"How much did Maurice pay all of you? How dare you stop me! No matter what you do, I'll still be the head of the Moran Group! Get out of my way, or you'll suffer the consequences!"

His threats fell on deaf ears. No matter how much he tried to convince them, the cars didn't budge.

Tired of screaming, Earle let out a heavy sigh and asked his assistant to contact Maurice.

"You brat! How could you do this to me? I'm your grandfather! I won't let you get away with this! Postpone the press conference right away!"

"Grandpa, if you don't make it to the press conference, it won't matter. Punctuality is important. That's something you've always told me."

Maurice's smug tone came from the other end of the phone.

"You ungrateful brat! If you hadn't forced my car down another road, I would've made it!" Earle scolded angrily.

"I guess we don't have a choice. Don't worry, Grandpa. The press conference will continue as planned."

Maurice ended the call without hesitation while Earle was still shouting.

[Chapter 480 I'll Leave](#)

After Maurice hung up the phone, Earle was so angry that he almost threw his phone away.

Earle was very anxious as their car got further and further away from the destination. He turned to his assistant and said sharply, "You better find a way!"

Aleck quickly lowered his head. He was very embarrassed right now.

What could he do now? They had lost all chance of changing their situation.

Earle was furious. He snapped, "Damn it! Corbin must be the one behind all this. Is Corbin more capable than you?"

Aleck didn't say anything, but quietly turned off his phone.

He had just received a short message from Corbin, which read, "I'm sorry. I guess Mr. Moran's pissed. Take good care of him. Remind him to take medicine."

Although Aleck was angry, he couldn't help but feel proud.

He was the one who taught Corbin everything Corbin knew.

Since Corbin could trick him, it proved Corbin had finally finished his apprenticeship. How couldn't Aleck be proud of his student?

At this time, Harriet was still waiting at the gate of the Moran Group building. She didn't know that Earle, whom she had been waiting for impatiently because he might be able to help her, wouldn't come.

It was getting late. Seeing that Earle was still nowhere in sight, Harriet grew increasingly anxious.

All of a sudden, a car rushed over. Harriet's eyes lit up.

The car stopped right in front of Harriet. When the driver's seat door was opened, Harriet was stunned to see Gerald's silhouette appear.

Her eyes darkened again.

Why was he here?

Gerald walked up to Harriet and said with a gloomy face, "You don't need to wait. Neither my father nor your uncle will come."

Harriet was stupefied. She looked at Gerald in disbelief and asked, "How could this be?"

Gerald was furious and it showed in his eyes. With veins appearing on his forehead, he hissed, "It is all Maurice's work. Kelvin is stuck at home because of an adultery scandal and my father is stuck in traffic. Maurice is really good at playing tricks!"

Harriet's face turned pale upon hearing that.

She murmured in disbelief, "Does he hate me so much? How could he come up with such a plan just to ruin the announcement of our engagement? Doesn't even his grandfather mean more to him than Eliana?"

Staring at Harriet who was absent-minded, Gerald said seriously, "Don't be upset too early. You still have a chance..."

"There's still a chance?" Harriet muttered, a glimmer of hope passing through her eyes.

"Yes. It will all depend on whether you are capable of taking the chance or not. You should turn the loss into victory..." Gerald was like a devil, constantly tempting Harriet.

Meanwhile, Eliana was busy sorting out the documents in the office. She didn't have the faintest idea what was going on outside.

Lilian suddenly rushed into the office.

"Eliana, the superior just said there weren't enough people at the press conference. Come and help them."

As Lilian spoke, she reached out to grab Eliana's arm.

However, Eliana dodged and said coldly, "No! You can ask someone else for help."

"Everyone else is very busy. Do you think we all have nothing to do like you? You have to go today!"

This time, Lilian forcibly dragged Eliana to the room where the press conference was being held.

At this time, the rehearsal of the press conference had begun. Maurice and Harriet stood on the stage together.

The two of them looked like a real couple.

Looking at the two people on the stage, Eliana felt like there was a heavy stone in her heart, making it difficult for her to breathe.

Lilian brought Eliana to the stage and said dryly, "After Miss Stone announces the cooperation, a female employee is needed to present flowers to them on stage. That would be your responsibility. Do you understand?"

Eliana looked at her coldly and said nothing. Her whole being was unwilling to do that.

"Why are you still standing here? Go and help Miss Stone adjust the microphone," Lilian ordered, pushing Eliana to the stage.

When Harriet saw Eliana, she immediately held Maurice's arm as a sign of her relationship with him.

Seeing Harriet hold Maurice so intimately, Eliana felt as if her heart had been stabbed by a sharp knife. However, she pretended to be calm and walked over to Harriet.

When Maurice saw Eliana, a deep frown appeared on his face.

"Eliana, what are you doing here? Didn't I give you a task to do?"

Hearing that, Eliana stopped and lowered her head. She couldn't help smiling bitterly.

She felt she had been ridiculous to have had a crush on Maurice.

She raised her head and replied mockingly, "Mr. Moran, you don't need to drive me away. I'll leave as soon as I finish my work."

Maurice was a little stunned when he heard that. He opened his mouth to explain something, but he finally decided to keep quiet.

Harriet, who was standing next to Maurice, could clearly sense his care and love for Eliana.

That only made her extremely jealous.