

## Are Mine 61

### [Chapter 61](#)

"That bridal boutique right there," Alana said. "We'll go there and teach her a lesson."

"Wait!" Alondra said, "Just the two of us won't be enough. Have you forgotten that she's a pretty good fighter?"

"What do you mean, Auntie?" Alana seemed to be afraid of Emmeline's skills.

"I'll make a few calls," Alondra said. "If I can get Mrs. Serge, Mrs. Plummer, Mrs. Kingsley and the others here, they can bombard her with insults. That should be enough to make her suffer!"

"That's a good idea!" Alana said. "Get them here quickly before Emmeline leaves."

Smirking, Alondra made a few calls to her friends.

In ten minutes, a group of five wealthy ladies met up with Alondra excitedly.

They were experts at gossip and bickering!

Alana briefly explained to them what happened, thinking that her aunt made the right choice.

"Don't show any mercy to her. Make her wish she was never born! I won't skimp on your payment," she said.

"Leave it to us!" The ladies said confidently. "We'll be looking forward to payment!"

"No problem!" Alana grinned smugly.

The wealthy ladies swaggered noisily into the bridal boutique, elutching their handbags.

Emmeline was in the middle of choosing a gown. Before she knew it, she was surrounded by a group of middle-aged women in flamboyant makeup.

The women looked like they were looking for trouble, and they wasted no time in insulting Emmeline.

"Isn't she the b\*tch driven out of the Louise family? Tsk, it must be our unlucky day!"

"That's right. I want to ask if the manager welcomes b\*tches in this boutique. If he does, I'll have to take my business elsewhere!"

"You're a walking disaster, Emmeline Louise. Nothing good happens wherever you go!"

"Watch your mouths! I don't even know you!" Emmeline said.

"But we know who you are. The entire Struyria knows you're a shameless flirt!"

"You broke up Mr. Ryker and Ms. Lane. To think that Ms. Lane is already pregnant, too! You can't get any more shameless than that!"

"Stop with your nonsense!"

Emmeline was pale with anger. "Is it my fault Alana isn't loved?"

"Yes, it's all your fault, and you'd better admit it!"

"So she's Emmeline Louise, the current trending topic on the Internet?" The sales clerk said. "I was wondering why she looks so familiar!"

"That's her in the flesh!" One of the women said. "Tell your boss not to sell her anything. Otherwise, we'll be taking our business elsewhere!"

"No, please don't!" The sales clerk exclaimed. "We value your business!"

The sales clerk snatched the gown in Emmeline's hands and ran to the office in the back to get her superior.

When the manager received the news, he hastily ran to Emmeline.

"So you're Emmeline Louise! Aren't you ashamed of yourself? I don't want your business. I can't afford to offend these big spenders just to sell you one discounted gown!"

"How could you?" Emmeline said angrily. "It's not like I'm not paying!"

"A discounted gown isn't worth that much anyway!" The manager said. "I'll lose more money if I sell you that gown, so I'd rather not sell it to you!"

"That's right!" The women laughed smugly. "If you kick this b\*tch out of your boutique, we'll buy a gown each!"

"But... we don't carry your sizes," the manager said.

"You accept custom orders, right?" The women said excitedly, "We'll order one each as soon as this b\*tch

is out on the street!"

"Deal!"

The manager turned to speak to Emmeline coldly, "You heard that? If you still have any dignity in you, you'd better get lost!"

"Hahaha!" The women doubled over with laughter.

Alana and Alondra were delighted as they witnessed the scene from outside.

"Fine!" Emmeline took a deep breath and picked up her handbag. "I'll leave, but before I do, I want to know who did I lose to today?"

## [Chapter 62](#)

It's me, of course!" One of the women thumped her chest proudly, "You lost to me!"

"May I ask your name, madam?" Emmeline smirked coldly. "Does your husband run a business?"

"You can call me Mrs. Serge!" The woman said. "My husband owns a big company. You must've heard of Advance Contractors, right?"

"I know," Emmeline said. "Your husband must be Vance Serge then."

"That's him alright!" The woman smirked even more smugly.

"Thanks for making things easy for me." Emmeline took her phone and dialed Benjamin's number.

"Do you know Advance Contractors of Struyria?"

"Yes, Ms. Louise," Benjamin said. "Did Mr. Serge offend you?"

"No, but his wife did," Emmeline replied. "I want Vance Serge and his entire family to be out of Struyria by tomorrow!"

"Yes, Ms. Louise. I'll get that done for you," Benjamin said.

"Also," Emmeline continued, "There's a bridal boutique here that really bothers me. If I remember correctly, they're renting from us. I want it gone before this evening."

"Send the location to me, and I'll settle the rest for you," Benjamin said.

Emmeline ended the call and sent her current location to him.

"Hahaha!" The women and the manager burst out laughing as though they had just heard the funniest joke of the century.

"I didn't expect her to be even more shameless!"

"Does she think she can fool us with

that pathetic attempt of a joke?

Hahaha! I'm dying!"

Suddenly, the shrill ringing of a phone interrupted everyone's laughter.

It was Mrs. Serge's phone.

While taking her phone from her handbag, she said smugly, "It's my husband. He's probably asking if I have enough pocket money!"

"Tch!" The other women scoffed enviously.

Hubby!" Mrs. Serge answered with a coquettish voice.

"You b\*tch!" The person on the other end of the call was furious. "What have you done this time? I should've divorced you when I had the chance!"

"Why are you yelling at me, hubby?" Mrs. Serge said, aggrieved. "I'm with all of my friends!"

"That's because you deserve it! Who did you offend this time? My company has gone bankrupt, and we're forced to leave Struyria by tonight! I don't have a single cent to my name anymore, and all you can think of is shopping!"

“...” Mrs. Serge’s mouth was agape. She could not speak a word.

Who did I offend? Other than Emmeline, no one else! What can she possibly do? She looks like a poor loser...

A short while later, Benjamin’s subordinates arrived at the boutique and started removing the signboard.

The boutique manager fell sitting on the floor in shock.

Wait, I thought she was lying! How did it turn out to be true?

The other women knew that staying behind would be bad for them, so they wanted to leave.

“Hold it,” Emmeline said coldly. “If you don’t want to end up like Vance Serge, slap the two women at the door on your way out.”

“Ahh!” The women cried out in fear. They dared not talk back.

They did not know for sure if Emmeline was truly the bigshot she claimed, but there was no other explanation for what just happened.

They would rather err on the side of caution.

The women went up to Alana and Alondra, slapped them hard, and hastily ran away.

By the time the women were done with Alana and Alondra, they were sprawled on the floor.

When the two women got up again, Emmeline was nowhere to be seen, and the boutique in front of them was almost vacant.

“Auntie!” Alana sobbed while rubbing her swollen face. “Just who is Emmeline? This isn’t what I expected?”

“She’s only a poor loser, of course. This is all a coincidence!”

“It doesn’t look like a coincidence to me!”

“Who knows, that b\*tch might have friends in high places,” Alondra said. “We let her off easy today!”

Alana gritted her teeth. “Hmph! I won’t let you off so easily, Emmeline! You’ll meet your end at the banquet tomorrow!”

### [Chapter 63](#)

Emmeline returned to the café, still feeling angry about what had transpired earlier.

At least she managed to teach Alana and Alondra a lesson. That made her feel a little bit better.

However, she did not manage to buy a gown.

She wanted to get a plain-looking one so she did not attract attention, but Alana had ruined her plan.

She downed a cup of coffee and went upstairs to look for Daisy.

“Go to my villa and get me my Serene Sea gown.”

Daisy was surprised to hear that. “That will be a bit too showy, won’t it? It’s a limited edition gown, and only one exists in the entire world!”

“No problem. I’ll just say that it’s an imitation,” Emmeline said. “I don’t have any other choice.”

“What about the blue diamond on the collar? People can tell it’s very rare.”

“I’ll replace it with a glass one,” Emmeline said and waved her hand. “That settles it.”

“Alright then.” Daisy took the car keys and left.

It took Daisy more than an hour to make the return trip between the café fast. She had to prepare dinner later.

Emmeline told her that Abel had given dinner. It meant Daisy had to cook more food.

She and Sam were Emmeline’s subordinates, and their skills were extraordinary. After Daisy stepped into the café, Abel arrived a while later. Emmeline quickly hid the priceless gown away.

“I’ll pick you up for the banquet at Meriwether Mansion tomorrow,” Abel said coldly.

“Nah,” Emmeline said as she rolled up her sleeves, preparing to help out in the kitchen.

“Don’t tell me you’re going there on an electric bicycle,” Abel said while following behind her.

“What about it? It’s also a valid mode of transportation,” Emmeline answered impassively.

Abel narrowed his gaze. “Hm, or... is Adrien picking you up?”

“I wonder what’s on your mind, Mr. Ryker.” Emmeline thought it was amusing. “It’s different when you’re with... Adrien,” Abel answered with some difficulty.

Emmeline had already stepped into the kitchen, but when she heard that, she turned around.

Abel instinctively took a step backward.

“Mr. Ryker, how are things between you and Alana?”

“Nothing is happening between us,” Abel answered while with each other.”

“So why were you testing me?” Emmeline sounded annoyed.

Abel coughed. “To be frank, when I first met you at the airport, I thought you and were meant to be together.”

But it didn’t turn out that way.”

Emmeline snorted.

“We can still change our fate. That’s not a big problem.”

“Heheh. You should wait until after Alana gives birth to her child.”

Abel's expression darkened immediately.

As long as Alana did not give birth to her child, Abel would not be able to prove his innocence.

Even if he wanted to start something with Emmeline, he was stuck between the two women and could not do anything.

"D\*mn it!" Abel cursed under his breath.

The next morning, Emmeline received a call from Julianna.

"Emma, I have a gown for you. Come over here and get changes."

"Thank you, but I've already prepared a gown," Emmeline replied.

"I'll get the driver to pick you up in the afternoon."

"Sure, thank you." Emmeline shot a glance at Abel sitting at the dining table.

She did not have to take the electric bicycle.

I would be weird if she rode on the electric bicycle while dressed in a priceless gown. Moreover, the long gown might get caught in the wheels!

Abel took a break from his oatmeal and said, "The driver isn't Adrien, Tight?"

"Huh." Emmeline was surprised by the question. She had not considered that.

"I'm full." Abel put down the spoon in his hand and left.

Emmeline remained frozen. The toast in her hand was a few inches away from her mouth.

Is Abel... jealous?

## [Chapter 64](#)

In the afternoon, a car from Meriwether Mansion came to pick Emmeline up.

The driver was not Adrien.

Emmeline later found out that Adrien had drunk a little too much the night before, and he was recovering from a hangover.

Emmeline felt somewhat disappointed.

Oh god, why must that guy be my son's father? Wouldn't Abel-be better?

By now, Meriwether Mansion was full of guests.

Landen and Lewis, Oscar's two sons, had returned from abroad.

The only person missing was Adam Ryker, Landen's oldest son.

He was the most promising candidate of the next generation to take the helm, but Oscar had disqualified him at the last moment.

Adam resented his grandfather for that, and he did not show up to family gatherings since then.

Landen was overjoyed to find out he had three extra four-year-old grandsons. Oscar was very happy about it too.

It did not matter who the three boys' father was. Most importantly, they were his great-grandsons.

In contrast, Lewis' family was lesser in numbers.

Rosaline was forcing a smile, and Alana was pushing her stomach outward to attract attention.

She was less than two months pregnant, and it was hard to see the bump.

Abel stood some distance away, acting as though what was going on had nothing to do with him.

The three boys were dressed in identical black suits, and their hair was combed backward neatly. They looked cute and handsome.

Everyone cheered when they made their appearance.

Julianna was on cloud nine and could not stop smiling. Wrinkles appeared on her botoxed face.

"Sun, Moon, and Star's mother deserves to be rewarded for blessing the Ryker family with three grandsons!" Landen said. "Adrien will also hold a grand wedding

reception!"

Julianna smiled even wider when she heard that. As Adrien's mother, she was very proud.

Oscar said, "I'll reward Adrien's wife-to-be too! She has graced our family with three direct descendants!"

"I agree!" Adrien yelled while stumbling down the stairs. "I love Emmeline! I want to marry her!"

"That's right, my son!" Julianna said happily. "Who knows if she'll bear another set of triplets when she gets pregnant again? I'd love to have some granddaughters!"

"I will win her heart!" Adrien said confidently.

Juliana and Adrien exchanged a high-five. "Good luck!"

The mood in Lewis' family became even more somber.

Rosaline was indignant. Meriwether Mansion plans to want Emmeline to bear more children for them! How annoying!

Emmeline also pulled a long face. Must I give birth to another set of triplets?

Alana was furious. Emmeline doesn't deserve this treatment! I've been

trying to get Abel's attention for many years, but Levan Mansion still hasn't taken me in yet! Look at Abel

standing there. He's deliberately ignoring me!

Alana had never felt so bad before.

“Alana is pregnant too!” Alondra spoke up for her niece. “In a few months, Alana will grace the Ryker family with another grandchild. She hasn’t gone for her check-up, but who knows? She might give birth to twins or even triplets too!”

Alana played along. She lowered her head shyly and gently touched her flat abdomen.

Rosaline dragged Abel over. “Abel, you should find some time and register your marriage with Alana. It’s time to add a new member to Levan Mansion!”

Abel did not say anything. His face was as frigid and harsh as an ice sculpture.

Alana turned her gaze toward him and instantly gasped.

Abel was dressed in the cheap black suit Emmeline had bought him the day before!

The head of Ryker Group and one of the most influential figures in Struyria was dressed in a mass-produced, hundred-dollar suit!

## [Chapter 65](#)

Alana’s knees went weak from the anger, and she nearly fell on the floor.

Emmeline! How did you bewitch Abel such that he’d willingly lower his status? He’s head over heels for you!

While Alana was simmering in her thoughts, the butler declared, “Announcing the arrival of Ms. Emmeline Louise!”

The people turned their heads toward the entrance.

A slender and beautiful young woman stepped through the ornate threshold.

She was dressed in a blue evening gown, and her chestnut hair was styled in a big wave.

She barely had any makeup on, but

her beauty was enchanting,

The women gasped when they looked closely at the gown she was wearing.

Is that the Serene Sea? The ultimate masterpiece by one of the best designers in the world, and only one was made?

“That’s... That’s impossible!” Alana was shocked.

She had been waiting eagerly for Emmeline’s appearance so that she could insult her. humiliate Emmeline using her lavish status, but Emmeline had stolen the entire show!

All of a sudden, Alana thought she was so unremarkable compared to Emmeline.

“Mommy!” “Mommy!” “Mommy!” “Pretty Mommy!”



Four boys ran toward Emmeline, with Timothy trailing behind.

Tears welled up in Emmeline's eyes. She bent down, spread her arms, and embraced the four children.

"My babies! I haven't seen you in a few days. How have you been?"

"We've been great!" Helios,

Endymion, and Hesperus answered. Only Timothy sheepishly lowered his head.

"Timmy." Emmeline gently held up Timothy's face and kissed his cheek. "What happened? You need to cheer up. Otherwise, I'll be sad."

"Mm." Timothy sniffled and forced a smile. "I'll try my best to be happy,

Pretty Mommy."

Emmeline's heart wrenched. She hugged the little boy so close that their hearts seemed to be touching.

"I say, Rosaline," Julianna said to Rosaline, "Something doesn't seem right. Timothy looks exactly like the three boys! Did Emmeline give birth to quadruplets, and someone from your family stole Timothy away?"

"That's utter nonsense!" Alana's face turned pale instantly. "He's not stolen!"

"Why are you so worked up?"

Julianna smirked. "I was only joking

with Rosaline!"

Rosaline took a closer look at the four boys and thought what Julianna said made sense.

Now that she mentioned it, it sort of makes sense. But that's impossible! They ran a DNA test, and Timothy is indeed Abel's son. "Come here!" Alana grabbed Timothy by his wrist and dragged him over.

"Look me in the eye! I am your mother!"

"Waah!" Timothy cried because of the pain.

"That's not how you treat a child!" Emmeline said angrily. "Is that how you should act as a mother?"

"I..." Alana snorted coldly. "It's none of your business!"

Emmeline was furious. "If you don't know how to behave as a mother, I'll teach you how to be one!"

Rosaline chided Emmeline coldly,

"You're in no position to teach her anything!"

Julianna took a step forward and shielded Emmeline behind her. "Emma is a good mother! Look at my three grandchildren. Aren't they fine?"

"That's enough!" Oscar said sternly. "Why must you bicker and argue as soon as you step through the door? Where are your manners?"

Emmeline was shocked. Is he talking about me? Why is he prejudiced against me?

Oscar said to Rosaline, "This girl looks too bewitching. I won't call Adrien a lucky man just yet!"

The atmosphere in the hall became tense suddenly. Rosaline froze and did not know how to react.

"Heheh!" Alana chuckled softly. She did not expect Oscar to say that.

Looks like I'm in luck! No one in the family can possibly defy the patriarch's words! Not so smug now, Emmeline!

## [Chapter 66](#)

Emmeline was also surprised by what Oscar said. What does he mean? I'm too bewitching? Am I supposed to be Helen of Troy in this story? Does he think I'll ruin his family?

"Looks like Adrien isn't that lucky after all." Abel walked toward her and draped his arm over her shoulder. "Emma, this banquet is getting boring. Let's go somewhere else."

Emmeline gently pushed him away. She knew Abel wanted to protect her, but she was worried that his intervention might worsen the situation.

The three boys were pouting. They would never forgive anyone who spoke ill of their mother, even if that person was their great-grandfather!

"Yes, Mommy. There's no point staying here. Let's go home."

"Situation report! The Ryker family is a no-go."

"We love you, Mommy. You're the best mommy to all of us, it doesn't matter what other people say!"

Emmeline hugged the three boys tightly. "Alright, let's go home."

"I'll give you a ride," Abel said.

Adrien stepped between him and Emmeline. "She's my wife, and they're my children!"

Abel sneered. "You don't deserve to be a father."

"The three boys can't leave!" Julianna grabbed Sun, Moon, and Star. "They're my grandchildren..

They can't leave!"

"But Granny," Sun said, "Great- Grandpa doesn't like our mommy, so we can't stay here. We'll be going home with Mommy."

"We are here to assess the situation," Moon said, "And it looks like this place isn't up to par. We should leave with Mommy."

Oscar said sternly, "You three are descendants of the Ryker family.

You cannot leave with an outsider!"

"No!" The three boys cried out together. "We only want Mommy! We don't care about the Ryker family!"

Oscar was furious. "But your mother doesn't meet my requirements! I can only ask her to leave!"

"Mr. Ryker, you're getting ahead of

yourself," Emmeline said coolly. "I've never wanted to marry into the Ryker family, and I gave birth to the children. No one can decide their fate without my consent!"

"You are in no position to speak like that here! I'm the one in charge!"

"I'm not beneath you! I don't have to listen to what you say!"

"Show some respect, young woman!"

"I'd give you some respect if you deserve any!"

"Security! Take her down!" Oscar roared angrily.

"Grandfather!" Abel spread his arms and stood in front of Emmeline. "You can't treat Emmeline like that. What did she do wrong?"

Hmph! I'd rather not separate the mother from the children because it's better for them to stay together, but I can see that this young woman is extraordinary."

"Oh?" Emmeline smirked, though alarm bells rang in her head. "How am I extraordinary?"

"The gown you are wearing," Oscar said, "Is the pièce de resistance of a world-renowned designer. If you're not extraordinary, you wouldn't have come into ownership of a priceless item like that."

Emmeline laughed. "Heheh, I made this gown with my own hands. It's only an imitation. How could you have been mistaken?"

"What?"

"An imitation?"

"She made it herself?"

Everyone was shocked.

Emmeline continued, "That's right. I saved up money to buy the materials and spent two years stitching this gown myself. As much as it resembles the original, it is missing the Ocean's Heart diamond. I had to replace it with a worthless glass bead."

Everyone turned their gaze toward the trinket on her collar. Just like what she said, it was a glass bead with no luster.

Emmeline smirked. "Any more questions, Mr. Ryker?"

Oscar was feeling embarrassed, though he maintained his composure. He smiled kindly and said, "I must have been mistaken!"

"Can I leave with my children now?" Emmeline asked.

[Chapter 67](#)

"You've come all the way here. Why not stay for the party?" Oscar said with a smile. "You wouldn't be so heartless to refuse an old man's invitation, right?"

"Of course not. I'm glad to stay," Emmeline replied. What a sly old fox. I'm willing to entertain him anyway.

With the incident resolved, the atmosphere became jovial once more. Julianna hurriedly hugged the three boys tightly.

"Oh, my dear grandchildren! I nearly lost you!"

"If Great-Grandpa says he doesn't like Mommy, we'll leave again." The boys made their stand clear.

"He won't." Landen went down on one knee and spoke to the children. "I'll protect your Mommy."

"Thank you, Grandpa." The three boys offered their thanks, which delighted Landen greatly.

Lewis watched all that from afar, feeling very bitter about it. Rosaline turned her head away angrily.

Emmeline turned her head and looked at Abel. "Mr. Ryker."

Abel had risked offending Oscar and protected her. Even though she refused his offer, she was still very grateful.

"Thank you for earlier."

Before Abel could say anything, Emmeline was dumbfounded.

He's wearing the cheap suit I bought for him! That's... ridiculous! How can he wear that on this occasion?

You..." Emmeline tugged his sleeve. "You really wore this."

"You bought it, so have to wear it," Abel said with a smile. "It fits me perfectly, haven't got the chance to thank you!"

Oh my! Emmeline covered her face. This man is so easy to please!

Oscar did not intimidate her, but she was shocked speechless by Abel.

Alana was furious when she saw Emmeline and Abel close to each

other. She went over and said angrily, "Watch what you're doing, Emmeline. You belong to Adrien!"

Rosaline also came over. "Yes, Ms. Louise. You are in Landen's family, and you shouldn't be so intimate with Abel. Abel is going to marry Alana, and they will have three or more children."

"I'll congratulate you in advance then," Emmeline said with a smile.

However, Abel's expression sank. What do you mean, Emmeline?

Oscar said, "Ms. Lane is Timothy's mother and is already pregnant with Abel's child. Now that it has come to this, I won't force Abel to look for the Wonder Doctor anymore. Abel, you should marry Ms. Lane as soon as possible. The family needs more great-grandchildren!"

"Thank you, Grandfather!" Alana

bowed shyly at Oscar.

"Let's choose a good date then!" Rosaline said. "I can't wait to bring you into Levan Mansion!"

Alana narrowed her eyes and gazed

eoldly at Emmeline.

You're in no position to snatch what belongs to me!

You're not going to marry Adrien too. I'll make sure that your reputation is ruined!

Alana turned around and discreetly sent a message on her phone to her conspirator. Then, she deleted the message.

Emmeline was not enjoying herself with her current company, so she went to look for her three children.

The banquet started, and people started eating and drinking merrily.

Julianna and Landen were on the dance floor, celebrating the acquisition of three grandchildren.

Alana walked up to Abel. "Let's dance, Abel."

"I'm good, thanks Abel said with a smirk. "You should be more careful too. Wouldn't want to hurt your baby."

Alana averted her gaze. She did not understand the implication in Abel's tone.

"Care for a drink, miss?" Someone spoke up behind Emmeline.

She turned away from the three boys and saw a young man standing behind her.

He looked quite handsome, and he was extending a hand holding a glass of red wine toward her.

"Do I know you?" Emmeline asked.

## [Chapter 68](#)

"Now you do." The man smiled and extended the glass of wine.

"Thank you." Emmeline took the glass out of courtesy. He should be someone from the Ryker family, I guess?

"You are very pretty," the man said with a smile. "You caught my attention as soon as you entered the door. A toast to your charms."

The man lifted his wine glass and took a sip, and Emmeline had no choice but to follow suit.

"Your three children look so outstanding. I'm very envious," the man said.

"Heheh, thanks!" She was happy whenever someone praised her children.

A toast to your three outstanding children."

Emmeline did not refuse the toast and took another mouthful of wine.

"The way you defended yourself and your children earlier was admirable. That deserves another toast," the man said with a smile.

Emmeline frowned slightly. Is he here just to make me drink? But what he said makes sense too. Another glass of red wine won't hurt, would it?

Emmeline downed another mouthful of wine.

"Fantastic! I admire women like you, Ms. Louise," the man said.

Emmeline put her glass away. "I'll have to look after my children. You should go and admire someone else."

"Of course," the man said with a smile. "We can chat later."

Emmeline waved her hand at him. The man took the wine glass and left with a sinister smirk on his face.

"Mommy, you're very beautiful today!" Sun gestured a thumbs-up at Emmeline.

"You're the prettiest lady at the party!" Moon tilted his head and admired his mother's beauty.

"I'm sure this is what is meant by a face that can launch a thousand ships." Star's eyes were sparkling with admiration.

"Aww, you flatter me." Emmeline was happy.

There was nothing more blissful than spending time with one's own children.

Suddenly, the temperature in the hall seemed to have risen. Emmeline could feel her face turning flush, and her breathing became faster.

"I'm going to the garden for some fresh air. I'll be right back," Emmeline said to the children. She lifted her gown and went to the garden.

The cool evening air made her feel better, but waves of heat continually assaulted her from within.

Oh no! I must've fallen into that man's trap.

The wine he gave me must be drugged!

But why is he setting me up?

Emmeline knew it was not the time to ask questions. Her first priority was to find an antidote. Otherwise, she would willingly give herself away to the first man she saw, and that would be very humiliating.

Naturally, she did not bring the antidote to the party with her. It was not something one would bring along.

Taking a risk, Emmeline picked up her gown and went toward the bushes.

If she was lucky, she might find a herb that could alleviate the drug's symptoms.

Several small flowering plants next to the fence attracted her attention.

The grass could alleviate the symptoms but not completely cure her.

She knew she did not have time to consider the options. The waves of desire almost overwhelmed her, and she really wanted to strip her gown away. She grabbed a bunch of grass and leaves and shoved them into her mouth.

Urgh! It tastes so bad... but it's better than pouncing on men!

Alana whispered into Alondra's ear. "Emmeline went to the garden. The drug must be taking effect."

"Mr. X should be moving into action now!" Alondra cackled. "I'm sure Emmeline will enjoy the treatment, and we'll catch them in the act!"

"Yes, let's go!"

Alana sent another message to the young man. "Move out!"

The young man smiled when he saw the message on his phone, and he turned around and went to the garden.

After eating a few handfuls of leaves and grass, Emmeline could feel the waves of desire wearing off.

She would have to counter the remaining effects with sheer willpower.

However, her face was still flushed, and her vision was blurry.

The man found Emmeline in the garden. He smiled when he saw her collar open wide.

"Ms. Louise, are you feeling warm? Why don't you take off your clothes and let me take care of you? There's no one else here..."

## [Chapter 69](#)

Before the young man could finish his sentence, Emmeline delivered a punch to each of his eyes.

Once his vision went dark, he felt a kick between his legs, and he immediately doubled over in pain.

"How dare you drug me, you b\*stard!"

"Have mercy on me, Ms. Louise!" The young man did not expect Emmeline not to be affected by the drug. He knew he was in trouble.

"It's too late to beg for mercy!"

Emmeline lifted her gown and sent the man flying with a roundhouse kick.

The man fell into a bush. Emmeline stomped the man's head with a high heel, which caused him to grunt and pass out.

"What a softie." Emmeline said derisively. "You can't even fight, and you think you can set me up?"

She was worked up after exerting herself physically, and she felt the waves of desire becoming stronger again.

She quickly sat down in the gazebo and took several deep breaths, trying to make herself as calm as possible.

Meanwhile, Abel turned around and did not see Emmeline. He wondered where she went.

He went up to the three boys and asked them, "Where did your mommy go?"

"Mommy said the hall is getting warm, so she went to the garden to get some fresh air," Sun answered the question on behalf of his brothers.

"Mm." Abel patted the three children's heads. "Be good boys. I'll go and look for your mommy."

Thank you, Mr. Ryker," the three boys said.

"Mr. Ryker?"

Abel stopped walking away. "Shouldn't you call me Daddy?"

"But you're not our daddy," Sun said. "That's a pity."

"You're most qualified to be our father, but we have no say in this," Moon said.

"Yup, our hands are tied. We can only call you 'Mr. Ryker' from now on,"

Star said.

"We'd love to call you Daddy, but fate is cruel!" the three boys said together.

Abel was not pleased with what they said, but that was indeed the truth, and he could do nothing about it.

guess you can call me 'Mr. Ryker' for now then," Abel said. Who can tell what will happen in the future? What if Emmeline and I...

He turned around and quickly

walked into the garden.

He did not see Emmeline anywhere, and he was getting worried.

He continued walking down the path while calling out, "Emmeline?"



Emma? Where are you?"

Suddenly, he nearly tripped over something. Abel looked down and saw a man next to his feet.

Surprised, he crouched and held a finger to the man's nose.

He's still breathing. At least he's not dead... But what about Emmeline? What just happened here?

Abel became more and more

worried. "Emma? Where are you?" he yelled.

Suddenly, he felt something soft and warm fall into his arms and hug his neck tightly.

"Emma..."

Before he could finish a word, a pair of cherry lips sealed his mouth, and a tongue began to seek out pleasure in his oral cavity.

Mmh...

Abel was instantly aroused. He hugged Emmeline tightly with his arms and kissed her passionately.

"Ugh., don't feel too good... Claim me, Abel, claim me!" Emmeline cried out dreamily.

Abel instantly understood that

Emmeline was drugged.

Who could have possibly set her up?

"Emma!" Abel shook her violently.

"Wake up, Emma!"

"Claim me! I want you!"

Emmeline writhed like a snake in his

arms. She was going to tear her clothes off.

"Emma!" Abel gripped her tightly, by

her arms. "Wake up! You're not making sense!"

It was too late. The drug had completely taken over her sanity.

"I want you so bad, Abel. I feel so uncomfortable..."

"Sorry about this!" Abel lifted his hand and knocked her out with a precise strike on the back of her neck.

It was better to knock her out than to let her embarrass herself. He did not know who might be watching.

It would be bad for Emmeline if someone with ulterior motives caught her in the act.

Back in the banquet hall, Alana whispered to Alondra, "It's almost time, Auntie. Should we go and watch the drama unfold?"

"Let's go!"

## [Chapter 70](#)

Suddenly, Alondra called out, "Where's Emmeline? Did anyone see my flirtatious stepdaughter?"

Her gesture caught the attention of many guests. They turned their heads and looked at her.

Alana said, "Ah! I saw Emmeline go to the back garden with one of the male guests. I wonder if it's something urgent?"

"What could it be?" Alondra said. "I know my stepdaughter very well. She can't stand feeling lonely!"

Julianna went over to them. "What do you mean? What happened to Emmeline?"

"I saw her going to the back garden with one of the male guests," Alana said. "I'm sorry, I didn't take care of my cousin."

Alondra pretended to wipe a tear from her eye. "It's not your fault, Alana. That girl has been a flirt since she was young. She always makes me worry!"

Adrien came over too. "What did you say? Emmeline's a flirt?"

"Yes, Mr. Adrien," Alana said, "Emmeline went to the back garden with a young man."

"This is ridiculous!" Adrien's eyes widened in anger. "She's making a cuckold out of me even before I marry her!"

Julianna seemed displeased. "Let's go to the back garden and see for ourselves then. If that's who she is, we'll have to kick her out of the household!"

"This is preposterous!" Landen was frowning hard.

Alana smirked. This is the end of you, Emmeline Louise!

"Let's go and see then!" Alondra said. "hope my stepdaughter doesn't make a fool of herself!"

"Yes, let's go. They won't get away with this!"

"We have to catch them in the act. Block the exits!"

The guests were becoming rowdy.

With Adrien taking the lead, they went to the back garden.

Alana tried very hard not to burst out laughing. She could already imagine what would happen next.

However, she said, "Don't be rash, Mr. Adrien. Emmeline is a spoiled woman. I'll teach her a lesson on your behalf. You shouldn't be too harsh on her!"

"You're a saint, Alana!" Alondra said. "Emmeline is so shameless, yet you're still trying to protect her dignity!"

Alana said, "We're family after all. I won't feel good if Emmeline is in trouble!"

The guests nodded in admiration, thinking

Discreetly, Alana smirked.

The crowd rushed down the path toward the back garden, but they saw Abel coming their way.

There was a woman in his arms, It was the unconscious Emmeline.

"Abel!" Adrien roared. "So you're making me a cuckold!"

Alana and Alondra were confused.

Where's Mr. X that we bribed? Why is Abel with Emmeline?

Alana's heart skipped a beat. Oh no! Emmeline was drugged, so she might have made out with Abel...

Her head started spinning, and she stumbled a few steps backward.

She whispered into Alondra's ear. "Auntie... Did I unknowingly set myself up?"

Alondra was flustered when she saw that Emmeline was together with Abel.

Oh no! This is the worst possible outcome!

She was so flustered she wanted to stomp her feet.

"Abel? What's the meaning of this?" Rosaline asked uneasily. She did not want her son's reputation to be tarnished.

"Abel!" Adrien was charging toward Abel while rolling up his sleeves. "I'll kill you!"

Abel nimbly stepped aside and tripped Adrien, who stumbled and nearly fell over.

"Adrien, I happened to show up just in time and save Emmeline!" he said coldly.

"You're lying!" Adrien's eyes were bloodshot.

"You can get the doctor to check on Emmeline," Abel said. "Emmeline was drugged. Someone tried to set her up!"

"Who could it be?" Adrien believed him.

That person is lying unconscious on the ground over there," Abel said. "Get the surveillance footage of the banquet hall. You should be able to find the evidence that he drugged Emmeline."

"Security! Tie that man up, and get me the surveillance footage of the banquet hall!" Adrien roared sternly.

Suddenly, Alana's knees gave out, and she fell to the ground.

Rosaline was shocked. “What happened to Alana?” she asked Alondra.