

# **The Breaking Point of Love**

## **#The Scent of 401 - Read The Breaking Point of Love The Scent of 401**

### **Chapter 401**

"No need, I've already eaten. But thank you," Celeste answered.

To be honest, Caleb's confession was actually quite moving But...

The reason she had taken Caleb's call in the first place was to clear things up once and for all.

So, she spoke seriously, with calm conviction; "I really appreciate your feelings for me. But just as you said, I really don't have any plans to start a new relationship right now. So, I'm sorry. And please don't wait for me."

She noticed Caleb was about to respond again, hesitated briefly, and then decisively hung up the call.

With her phone still in hand, she stood still, emotions tangled and heavy.

After a long moment, a bitter smile tugged at her lips. She turned and went back to the private room.

She had been gone quite a while.

Once Matthias had figured out the reason for Caleb's call, he was dying to know what exactly was going on between them. Seeing how long their phone call lasted only made him more curious.

As soon as Celeste returned, he leaned in and asked in a low voice, "What's going on between you and Caleb?"

Celeste took a sip of her lemon water and replied lightly, "Nothing much."

Matthias got the hint. "Not convenient to talk now, huh? I'll ask you later."

Celeste didn't answer.

Kieran was even more restless than Matthias.

He'd been waiting for Celeste to come back from the call, and while waiting, he messaged a friend to ask about Caleb.

They were all from the same social circles, so his friend naturally knew Caleb. As soon as Kieran asked, the friend gave him a quick background rundown.

Just as Celeste walked back in, his friend asked with curiosity, "Why the sudden interest in Caleb?"

Not hearing what Celeste and Matthias were saying, Kieran pulled his gaze away and typed a reply, "Nothing."

Trevor also looked over at Celeste when she came back. But after a brief glance, he smiled and continued chatting with the others.

Celeste didn't pay much attention to Trevor or Kieran. After exchanging a few words with Matthias, she turned her attention back to Bryson and the conversation.

A little while later, Bryson, who was sitting next to Trevor, had a professional question and asked for Celeste's opinion.

So, she walked over..

Just then, Trevor was typing on his phone.

When Bryson stood up to make space for Celeste, he accidentally bumped Trevor's arm, and his phone fell to the ground.

Not realizing whose phone it was, Celeste instinctively bent down to pick it up and turned to hand it to Bryson. Only then did she notice—the screen displayed the text messages with Wynn.

It was Trevor's phone.

Realizing that, she quickly averted her eyes and moved to place the phone down on the table. But Trevor had already reached out his hand and said, "**It's**

mine. Thanks."

She handed it back to him and, without saying a word, took **the** seat next to Bryson.

About 20 minutes later, lunch finally wrapped up. Celeste stood up, ready to leave with the others.

Just as they stepped out of the private room, the door to the room across the hall opened.

Unable to help himself, Matthias leaned toward Celeste and murmured, "Such a coincidence? I'm guessing this was planned." 3

He meant Trevor and Wynn had coordinated their timing.

Celeste had caught a glimpse of the chat screen on Trevor's phone earlier. Just as Matthias said, it was arranged. Kieran quickly stepped up to walk beside her. Celeste thought he had something to say, so she asked, "What is it?" Realizing she had never truly noticed his feelings, Kieran had originally planned to take it slow. But seeing the situation now, he realized he couldn't wait any longer.

Still, this wasn't the right time or place. So, he only said, "Nothing."

Trevor noticed Kieran moving toward Celeste, glanced at them briefly, then looked away and turned to Wynn, who had just stepped out of the opposite room. 1

Celeste and Matthias didn't bother making eye contact with the Shaw or Locket family members. They also had no interest in witnessing how close Trevor and Wynn might appear.

So, they walked off without a pause. 1

Downstairs, after a brief conversation related to work, Trevor and Wynn got into the car and left.

Thinking of how Celeste had left earlier with Matthias and Kieran, Patricia remarked as they drove, "That girl- wasn't she with Matthias just now? The heir of the Gibson family was also next to her, right?"

"If something really does happen between them, it's bound to affect her relationship with Matthias, don't you think?"

The Locket family was well aware of Wynn and Kieran's past. And they had fully supported Wynn's choice to be with Trevor instead.

After all, compared to Kieran, Trevor was undoubtedly more accomplished, and he had indeed shown that he was willing to sacrifice more for Wynn. (5

Kieran had all the makings of a perfect partner, which made Linda nearly jump out of the car in protest.

"No way! What if Mr. Gibson really falls for that bitch? Then **we'll** lose a friend and add an enemy!"

Ruby just chuckled, unconcerned. She lightly tapped her daughter's head and said, "Silly girl. With Wynn shining like a gem, how could Mr. Gibson really fall for Celeste?"

Over the years, she had seen firsthand just how irresistible Wynn was to men.

Wynn said nothing.

She wasn't about to comment on whether Patricia's strategy would work—but like Ruby, she was confident Kieran wouldn't be swayed by Celeste.

She knew exactly how deeply Kieran loved her. She had absolute confidence in that. 4

Lilian, though silent, shared the same view that Kieran wouldn't truly fall for Celeste.

With that point firmly settled, she finally said, "Because of the missed opportunity with YodaVision, Wynn has lost so much in recent months. Meanwhile, Celeste used that very opportunity to launch herself—and now, she's clearly on the rise.

"If we let her keep going and allow her to stay with Matthias, she really might carve out a name for herself in the AI industry. 2

"So, disrupting her relationship with Matthias and reclaiming the connections with Matthias and Zachary that Wynn lost is something we must do now. 3

"Otherwise, we may lose even more in the future!"

That hit home.

Recalling how Celeste had cost them a 300-million-dollar breach of contract, and then seeing her bask in glory these past few weeks because of the paper she released, Linda burned with jealousy and resentment.

After hearing Lilian's analysis, she no longer objected.

Instead, she eagerly asked, "Then what do we do? Mr. Gibson is so into Wynn, he definitely won't go along with it, right?"

Balancing Wynn's image and getting Kieran to play along would take some careful maneuvering. But it was not impossible. (1

Celeste, Matthias, and Kieran returned to YodaVision's office building after lunch.

When the elevator reached their floor and the doors slid open, they stepped out. Just as they were about to head for the entrance, they saw a tall, well-built figure standing by the front desk.

As if hearing their footsteps, the man turned around.

Celeste halted in her tracks.

She had already explained her situation with Caleb to Matthias during the car ride back.  
2

Matthias, ever the gossip fiend, had been gleefully soaking it all in. 1

## Chapter 402

**Now** seeing the **other** party involved waiting at their company lobby, he let out a delighted “Wow” **and**

raised an eyebrow, utterly entertained.

Kieran had never met Caleb before, but the moment he saw him, he instantly figured out who he was.

There was no denying it—Caleb was handsome. In fact, his looks were just as superior as his name **suggested**.

Kieran’s expression darkened noticeably.

Caleb turned back, caught sight of Celeste and Matthias, and said, “You’re back.”

Celeste truly didn’t expect him to show up at her workplace She pressed her lips together. “**You-**”

“Guessed you might be here, so I came over.”

He looked straight at her, then added politely to Matthias, Mr. Yoder, long time no see.”

Matthias grinned and shook hands with him. “Long time indeed. This must be your first visit to **YodaVision**, right? Since you’re here, why not come in for a little tour?”

“Sure,” Caleb replied with a smile—casting another glance at Celeste, but also catching the icy stare from Kieran nearby.

Though they had never met, Caleb could immediately sense Kieran’s hostility.

The way Kieran stood close to Celeste, his posture and expression practically screamed possessiveness- displeased by Caleb’s appearance and protective over Celeste.

Caleb immediately understood.

He paused, then looked over at Kieran and asked, “This is...”

Matthias wanted Celeste to introduce them. But she said nothing.

So, he had no choice but to speak up. “This is Kieran Gibson, an engineer here at YodaVision.”

## Chapter 403

Caleb extended his hand with a polite smile. “Caleb Jennings.”

Kieran shook it firmly.

As their eyes locked, it was as if an unspoken message passed between them: “We’ll each rely on our own skills to win her over.”

After the handshake, Caleb turned back to Celeste...

“My coming here made you uncomfortable, didn’t it?”

It did.

But she responded tactfully, “A little.”

“I figured as much. knew you’d feel uncomfortable, but I still came.” His tone was calm, even apologetic.

“Because I felt that if I didn’t try, I’d never know if you might change your mind. But now **I’ve** tried, and I know the answer. **I’ll** be more mindful from now on.”

So, he was planning to keep pursuing her?

Before Celeste could respond, Caleb turned to Matthias. “Let’s save the YodaVision tour for next time. I won’t disturb you further.”

Matthias had a good impression of Caleb. If Celeste were to start a new relationship after her divorce, he genuinely thought Caleb could be a decent choice.

But since Celeste herself didn’t seem interested at the moment, he wasn’t about to meddle.

So, he replied courteously, “If you have time, you’re always welcome to visit us again, Caleb.”

Caleb nodded. Before turning to leave, he glanced one last time at Celeste.

She stood in silence, seemingly deep in thought.

He looked like he wanted to say something more, but in the end, he simply said, “See you next time.”

“Take care.”

Then, Caleb left.

Earlier, Kieran had thought Caleb and Celeste were already together. But now, he realized it had only ever been a one-sided

pursuit.

Celeste had rejected him—openly and decisively.

That realization lifted Kieran’s mood significantly.

Not long after Caleb left, word had already spread around the company—a super handsome guy had come looking for Celeste.

“Was that hunk her husband?” someone asked curiously.

At that moment, Kieran was sitting in front of his computer.

The hand on his mouse suddenly froze. Her husband? Had he heard that right?

Before he could speak up, another colleague chimed in, “At first, Gianna from reception thought so too. But judging by their conversation, it seemed like the guy was just chasing after her. Doesn’t look like he’s her husband at all!”

“Damn, some pretty boy chased her all the way to the office? Do you think her husband knows about this? If—”

Kieran couldn’t take it anymore and cut in, “Hold on. You said Celeste is already married?”

“Yeah.” A colleague blinked at him. “You didn’t know?”

“I didn’t.”

At first, he’d assumed Celeste and Matthias were dating. But after spending time in the company, he noticed that despite their close working relationship, they didn’t act like a couple.

They never came or left together, and there was a distinct lack of romantic behavior.

He’d even confirmed it directly with Celeste—she told him they weren’t dating.

The colleague thought for a moment and added, “Ah, right. You only joined this year. Most of the older folks in the department know about it, but since you came later and

we've stopped bringing up her personal life as much, it's understandable you didn't know."

Kieran didn't reply.

The fact that Celeste was married had come as a complete shock.

After a moment, he asked, "What's her husband like? Have any of you met him? Do they have a good relationship?" "We've only ever seen his silhouette during a video call—never his face. No idea who he is."

Then, another colleague added, "As for how their relationship is... It's hard to say, honestly. Celeste's been with YodaVision for a while now, but aside from that one unexpected video appearance last year, her husband's never shown up again. She's also never mentioned him."

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## **Chapter 404**

"He's never shown up?" Kieran asked.

"Yeah." Another colleague chimed in, "That's why a lot of us think Ms. Rodriguez is probably already divorced. I mean, **it's** been more than half a year, and she hasn't even mentioned him once."

"Exactly."

That actually made sense.

If Celeste weren't divorced, would Caleb dare to pursue her so publicly?

Still, Kieran couldn't calm down. It had never crossed his mind that Celeste had already been married.

As he sat there in a daze, Celeste walked over and asked, "What's wrong?"

He wanted to ask, "Is it true that you're married?"

But this was the workplace, and asking personal questions like that—especially of a superior—wasn't appropriate. It might be alright once in a while, but any more would be crossing a line.

Snapping back to reality, he just said, "It's nothing."

That afternoon, Celeste received a phone call.



After hanging up, before the end of the workday, she told Matthias. “I might only come in tomorrow afternoon. Can you attend the morning meeting in my place?”

“Of course.” Then he asked, “Did something come up?”

“My mother’s going to the hospital for some health checks. I want to **go** with her.”

Matthias wasn’t aware of Isabelle’s worsening condition. He thought it was just a routine check-up. So, he said, “Alright. Go ahead. I’ll take care of things here.”

Celeste nodded and left the company.

The next day, Celeste, Betty, and Adeline all arrived early at the hospital.

Even at the hospital, they had to keep a distance, afraid Isabelle might spot them.

During the checkups, Isabelle would become inexplicably agitated struggling wildly like a madwoman. It often took multiple medical staff to hold her down to get through each procedure.

She had over ten tests in total. Once they were done, Isabelle left the hospital with the nursing home staff.

Betty, due to her own frailty, also left. Celeste stayed behind with the doctor from the nursing home to wait for the results.

Most of the reports wouldn’t be ready until the afternoon. Some could only be out the next day. But the few that were already out didn’t look promising.

After the doctor explained, Celeste felt her heart sink.

She thanked the doctor and prepared to leave the hospital. But just as she stepped into the hospital’s main lobby, a young girl’s voice called out, “Mom!”

Celeste froze. Her fingers tightened around **the** strap of her bag.

She didn’t turn her head and was about to pretend she hadn’t heard it and leave when Jordyn ran **over** from the side and hugged

+25 **BONUS**

her around the waist.

“Mom!”

Celeste turned slightly. She was just about to speak when she caught sight of Trevor standing not far away, watching from the crowd.

She averted her gaze, looked down at Jordyn, and, hearing her cough, asked quietly, “Are you sick?”

“Mm!” Jordyn nodded, coughing a few more, times before looking up.

“Mom, why are you at the hospital too? Are you sick?”

“No, I’m not sick.” Celeste touched her forehead. “Do you have a fever?”

“I had a fever last night, but it’s gone now.” Then, without waiting for Celeste to respond, Jordyn hugged her even tighter and glanced toward the approaching Trevor.

She pouted. “Last night I wanted to call you and ask you to accompany me, but Dad said you were busy.”

Celeste didn’t look at Trevor.

“I’m indeed busy. But I’m glad your fever’s gone.” She paused, then asked, “Why come to the hospital, though? What about the family doctor?”

For minor illnesses, there was usually no need to bring Jordyn to the hospital.

At that moment, Trevor spoke up, “We came for a full health check–up.”

Celeste heard this but didn’t ask why they needed it.

Jordyn clung to her and said excitedly, “Mom, I don’t have to go to school today. Can I go with you to visit Granny?”

## **The Breaking Point of Love #My Ex And My Husband Ch 405 - Read The Breaking Point of Love My Ex And My Husband Ch 405**

### **Chapter 405**

**Celeste said**, “I have to go to work now. Your granny isn’t feeling **well** these days and needs rest. Once she’s feeling better, **you can** go visit her.”

Although Betty had never truly blamed Jordyn for being close to Wynn, ever since learning that Isabelle's health had also started deteriorating, it felt like half her spirit had been drained.

If she were to see Jordyn now and be reminded of how close she had gotten to Wynn, it would probably only worsen her mood.

When Jordyn heard that Betty was sick, she looked genuinely concerned. "Huh? Granny is sick? Is it serious? Mom, why didn't you tell me?"

Celeste paused for two seconds before replying, "I didn't want you to worry, that's why I didn't tell you."

She then gently pried off Jordyn's hands, which were wrapped around her. "It's getting late. I have other things to take care of. You need to take good care of yourself."

Jordyn didn't want her to go, but seeing how busy Celeste seemed, she reluctantly let go. But as soon as she did, she felt upset again

"Mom, why are you so busy all the time now? You're even busier than Dad. When will you have time for me?"

"I'm not sure either."

As she said that, Celeste remembered that the divorce was about to be finalized. She thought it was time to stop hiding it from Jordyn. However... (1

If Trevor intended to marry Wynn after the divorce, he'd surely find a way to tell Jordyn himself.

So there was no need for her to bring it  
up directly.

Jordyn looked down sadly. "...Alright. Mom, you always say that lately."

Celeste knew that too. It was the best excuse she could give.

With that, she said again, "I'm leaving now."

"Okay."

Just as Celeste gave Jordyn one last look and  
about to turn to leave, she saw Wynn walking out from the restroom area.

Jordyn and Trevor were standing in the lobby—clearly waiting for someone.

And obviously, that someone was Wynn.

Wynn didn't seem to expect to run into Celeste either. When she saw her, she paused and gave her a cold glance.

Expressionless, Celeste looked away without saying a word and turned to leave.

Jordyn didn't notice Wynn coming out of the restroom. Seeing that Celeste was leaving, she clung to her mother's hand again, looking up at her with big, pitiful eyes full of reluctance.

Celeste could feel how much she didn't want to let go, but she still gently pulled her hand away. "Goodbye."

Seeing that Celeste was determined to leave, Jordyn finally withdrew her hand and wilted a little. "Mm, goodbye, Mom."

Standing at the side, Trevor watched how reluctant Jordyn was to let Celeste go, but he didn't try to stop her from leaving.

So, Celeste left.

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Jordyn watched her mother's retreating figure, unwilling to look away.

Only after Celeste had disappeared into the distance did Wynn finally walk over and ruffle Jordyn's hair.

apter 405

**Then** she turned to Trevor, who hadn't said much the whole time

**Trevor said**, "Alright."

**It** was then that Jordyn looked away and said listlessly to Trevor,

Trevor replied, "Alright, then we'll eat at home."

With that, the three of them left the hospital together.

**Chapter 405**

**Then** she turned **to** Trevor, who hadn't said much the whole time, and said, "**It's** getting late. Let's **go eat**."

**Trevor said**, "Alright."

It was then that Jordyn looked away and said listlessly to Trevor, "Dad, I want to eat at home."

Trevor replied, "Alright, then we'll eat at home."

With that, the three of them left the hospital together.

## **Chapter 406**

The next day, Isabelle's test results came back.

**Overall**, the level of organ failure in her body **was** slightly less severe than what had been shown in the previous **tests** conducted at the nursing home.

Normally, with this degree of organ failure, as long as there was treatment and proper **care**, the condition could be stabilized.

However, Isabelle's baseline health was extremely poor, and the rate of organ deterioration was relatively fast—**so** her overall prognosis was still not optimistic.

After hearing the doctor's analysis, Celeste and Betty felt a mix of relief and worry.

Relieved because there was still a chance for Isabelle; worried because, given her current condition, she might not be able to cooperate fully with the treatment.

That afternoon, Zachary called and invited Celeste and Matthias out for dinner.

Matthias was away on a business trip that afternoon, so in the evening, Celeste drove alone to pick up Zachary,

When they arrived at the restaurant and had just gotten out of the car, Wynn, who was also just about to step out, caught sight of

them.

Seeing Celeste with Zachary, and not spotting Matthias anywhere, Wynn didn't think too much of it. She got out of the car and walked over to Zachary. "Mr. Newman."

Zachary glanced at her with a cold expression, gave a slight nod, and looked away. Then he turned to Celeste and said, "Let's go."

“1

With that, he started walking forward while continuing the conversation they'd been having earlier.

A few days ago, when Celeste had been discussing recent developments in the AI field with Bryson and Rodney in Trevor's office, she had received praise from them.

Even if they thought her views were somewhat secondhand, Wynn couldn't help but start following the latest trends in the field herself over the past few days.

So now, she could tell that Zachary and Celeste were discussing recent breakthroughs in AI—such as brain—computer interfaces and on—device AI inference.

Seeing Zachary give her a cool brush—off and then ignore her completely, Wynn didn't say anything more.

She just followed them into the restaurant while keeping a short distance from them.

At the reception desk, the hostess asked, “Hello, how many people are in your party? Did you make a reservation for a private room?”

Celeste answered, “Two people. I made the reservation under the name Rodriguez.”

The hostess checked the system, then smiled and said, “Yes, we did receive your call. Right this way, please.”

Celeste nodded and followed the staff with Zachary.

Wynn,

standing nearby, froze for a moment when she heard that.

Two people? That meant Matthias wasn't coming?

Celeste had enough influence with Zachary now that even without Matthias, she could meet with him one—on—one?

Zachary might be a big shot in the field, but he was known for not being fond of teaching others. When it came to professional knowledge, he wasn't the kind to share freely, nor could just anyone discuss AI with him.

**Most of** the time, even if someone sought him out personally, he might **not give** them the **time of** day.

He **held** a prestigious position but had a notoriously cold and proud demeanor.

Normally, someone like him should've been criticized for it. But **his** strength was simply too formidable, and **the** contributions he had made to the country were undeniable.

So, even though his actions didn't always match the responsibilities of his title, no one dared to **say** anything against him.

Yet just now, he had clearly been actively discussing technical topics with Celeste.

So, did that mean Zachary genuinely thought highly of Celeste? Otherwise, why would he give her such face and meet her for a private dinner?

After all, he was famous for being nearly impossible to book. Even for people he knew well, he rarely granted them that courtesy. Was Celeste truly someone Zachary had come to admire?

Thinking of how his attitude toward Celeste had been significantly warmer than toward herself, Wynn's red lips pressed into a tight fine as she watched them walk away.

Chapter **407**

## **Chapter 407**

**On** Thursday night, Celeste and Matthias, who had just returned from a business trip, attended a banquet together.

**As** soon as they arrived, she spotted Wynn and Linda.

They had noticed her too.

The moment Linda saw her, her expression soured. She snorted and muttered to Wynn, "Why is she everywhere?"

Celeste paid them no attention. After she and Matthias chatted briefly with the host of the banquet, she saw Kieran approaching, them.

Kieran had gotten an invitation after learning she would be attending the event.

That evening, Celeste wore a sleek, form-fitting black gown with simple cut, paired with her long, straight, dark hair.

Not only did she look cool and composed, but she also carried an air of mystery. She was stunning and eye-catching

It seemed that every time he saw her at a banquet, she managed to impress him all over again.

He had been at the previous two events as well, so Celeste **wasn't** surprised to see him this time. She simply said, "You're here too?"

Kieran quickly masked the amazement in his eyes and replied, "**Yeah.**

"

It was said that Dane Tanner would also be attending tonight's banquet. He was a good friend of Cayden's. The two were equally

well-known for their contributions to AI.

During her PhD studies, Wynn had met Dane twice.

They weren't close, but they knew each other.

Upon hearing that Dane was present, Wynn approached to greet him. "Mr. Tanner, long time no see."

Dane gave her a small nod.

Seeing that he still remembered her, Wynn smiled and wanted to continue the conversation.

However, Dane, clearly uninterested, turned his head before she could say anything and asked his assistant, "Well? Are Rodriguez and Yoder here yet?"

"They've arrived."

Dane's eyes immediately lit up. Turning to the group of people surrounding him, he said, "**I've** heard Rodriguez and Yoder are here. Please excuse me, I'll catch up with everyone later."

The host of the banquet teased, "So eager to chat with Mr. Yoder?"

"No, I'm more interested in Rodriguez. I think she's much more impressive."

With that, he offered a few quick goodbyes and turned to walk toward Celeste and Matthias.

Wynn's expression turned rather stiff after being brushed off like that.

Linda, watching from the side, was indignant.

"What's with him? Isn't he supposed to be Cayden's friend? He sees you and-



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—

Wynn pulled herself together and interrupted, “Enough.”

Seeing her expression darken, Linda got nervous and didn’t dare speak further.

Meanwhile, Dane had reached Celeste and immediately introduced himself. **He** said, “I’ve read your paper multiple times—it’s

**absolutely** fascinating.”

After **shaking** hands, Celeste replied, “Mr. Tanner, **you** flatter me

Her paper had only been published a few days **ago**, but organizers from several **top** international AI conferences **had** already **sent** her invitations, hoping she would attend.

Celeste, however, had politely declined them all.

Since she wouldn’t travel abroad, Dane had decided to fly in himself to meet her.

Now that he finally saw **her**; he launched enthusiastically into conversation. He started with her paper, then quickly expanded into other AI-related topics.

Whether it was the history of AI or trends in its development, Celeste responded with calm fluency.

When Dane mentioned who had published which paper in what year and on which topic, she could immediately follow up by highlighting the brilliance of that work and naturally referencing two or three related papers.

She extracted the core ideas and engaged Dane in a deep and informed discussion.

PrevNext

## The Scent of

### Chapter 408

Celeste and Dane quoted extensively and engaged in a lively, back-and-forth discussion.

Anyone with a discerning eye could tell that the more Dane spoke with Celeste, the more excited and impressed he became.

In **fact**, during their conversation, he even discovered a few gaps in his own knowledge. But that only delighted him.

**He** couldn't help but say, "I knew I wasn't wrong—Rodriguez, you really are better than me."

His remark shocked those standing nearby and listening in. After all, Tanner was a renowned figure in the AI industry.

So, for him to openly admit that someone as young as Celeste possessed such a deep reservoir of knowledge that outmatched him came as a surprise.

Only Matthias gave a subtle, knowing smile.

Wynn was also quietly listening at the side.

Linda couldn't understand a word of what Tanner and Celeste were talking about due to her limited knowledge.

Seeing that their conversation was still ongoing with no signs of stopping, she grew impatient. "What's there to talk about for this long?"

Wynn said nothing, but her fingers holding the wine glass were gradually turning pale from the force of her grip.

Though Ceravelle's AI field had made great strides in recent years, and professors like Bryson and Rodney had earned significant reputations domestically, there was still a considerable gap when compared to experts like Tanner and Cayden.

If Wynn had assumed that Celeste had merely picked up a few skills while tagging along with Matthias back at the Quendall University symposium, now she no longer believed that.

Celeste's knowledge was too extensive.

To be able to engage with Tanner like this—and even at times suppress him in discussion—how could she achieve that in just under a year?

This meant that Celeste must have already been quite capable before joining YodaVision.

In fact, that paper of hers—there was a very real possibility that it truly was her own original work.

If that were true, then in terms of professional expertise, Celeste had long since surpassed her.

But, how was that even possible?

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Celeste had barely graduated from university before joining the Fleming Group as a secretary. How could she possibly be so highly skilled?

“Wynn?” At that moment, Linda finally noticed Wynn’s pale expression. “What’s wrong? You don’t look so good.”

Wynn gripped her glass tightly, took a sip of wine, and said nothing.

Kieran had long known that Celeste was exceptional. But tonight, she had once again shattered his expectations.

As he stood listening to her conversation with Tanner, a friend of his suddenly leaned in and whispered, “I looked into her **for** you. This Ms. Rodriguez isn’t a native of Baumond.

“Her parents are apparently divorced, and her mother has mental health issues. She moved here with her uncle’s family over a decade ago.

“A few years back, her uncle’s business went downhill, and no one really stepped up to help. They don’t seem to have many

**friends or** connections here..

“Their business has picked up a bit recently, but in a place like Baumond, they still don’t rank anywhere near the top.”

Seeing Kieran glance sideways at him, clearly urging him to get to the point, his friend smiled and continued, “As for who **she** married... **It’s** probably because **the** Rodriguez family **is** practically invisible in the social scene.

“No one seems to know a thing, even though I’ve asked around quite a bit.”

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**Kietan frowned. “Not a single lead?”**

“**Yeah,**” his friend replied. “I heard she got married pretty young, it apparently her relationship with her husband wasn’t **great.**

“The Rodriguez family’s neighbors say they’ve never even seen the guy. It seems like her family doesn’t like him either. **They**

won’t even mention him.”

After a short pause, he added, “Also, they already have a child.”

Kieran abruptly looked up, thinking he must have misheard. “What did you say?”

“It’s true. I was just as shocked when I found out. You’d never guess, just looking at her.”

Indeed.

He had worked with Celeste at YodaVision for so long and had never once heard her mention a child. Nothing about her gave that impression either.

Seeing how stunned he was, his friend asked, “Want me to keep going?”

The implication was clear—Celeste had been married and had a child. Would Kieran still like her? If not, then there was no point in continuing to dig into her past.

Kieran stood there silently.

He had everything going for him, yet his love life had always been a mess.

The first woman he liked ended up falling for someone else while he was still pursuing her.

And now, just as he had finally started to develop feelings for someone new, he found out she had not only been married, but she also had a child.

Who could accept that?

His friend sighed and patted him on the shoulder. When he was just about to leave, he heard Celeste’s voice, still engaged in

conversation with Tanner.

Kieran turned his head toward her and couldn’t look away.

After a few seconds, his gaze steadied. “Tell me the rest.”

His friend, already mentally checked out and looking to flirt elsewhere, was momentarily confused. “What?”

Then he realized what Kieran meant and stared at him in shock. “Seriously? Are you for real?”

Kieran looked at him but said nothing.

His friend gaped for a while, about to say more when Kieran suddenly caught sight of Wynn approaching.

She walked over and started chatting with someone nearby.

Seeing her, Kieran hesitated.

His friend recognized Wynn too.

When she glanced over, he awkwardly raised his hand and greeted her with a polite smile, "Ms. Locket."

Wynn nodded and looked toward Kieran.

Kieran only gave her a slight nod before turning away, deliberately facing the other direction.

Seeing this, his friend didn't say much more to Wynn and continued, "So, should I keep going? Honestly, there's not much else.

Want **me to dig a bit deeper?**"

**Kieran replied,** "No need."

He **was** curious about who Celeste's ex-husband was, but not so much that he needed to know at all costs.

After all, **they** were already divorced. Digging too deep into the past served no real purpose..

The only reason he had asked someone to look into her was to get general sense of her background—not to investigate everything about her.

His friend shrugged. "Alright then."

Wynn, seeing Kieran's response, also looked away.

When they had first arrived, Kieran had immediately looked in their direction.

To Linda, that was proof he was paying attention to Wynn. She couldn't help but teasingly say, "Wynn, that Mr. Gibson seems pretty interested in you, huh?"

Wynn didn't respond.

After realizing that Celeste really was quite capable, her thoughts had quickly drifted to Kieran.

If Céleste was truly this outstanding, then it was entirely possible Kieran was genuinely drawn to her.

Celeste was beautiful to begin with, and when she talked with Tanner, her calm confidence made her even more radiant.

Someone like that truly had the power to captivate others. But then when she looked at Kieran, she saw he was only chatting with his friend—he wasn't even looking at Celeste.

Now, hearing Linda say this, she smiled faintly, feeling reassured,

Just then, Beck and Miles arrived and offered apologies to the host "Sorry for being late, something came up on the way."

"It's okay. We're not strangers. There's no need to apologize."

The moment Wynn saw Beck, the smile on her face faded instantly

After Beck greeted the host, he looked straight at Celeste and walked toward her without hesitation.

In his eyes, there was only Celeste. He didn't even seem to notice that Wynn was there.

It was Miles who saw the two women and signaled to Beck. He then looked over and gave Wynn a brief nod.

Wynn saw everything.

Linda, still clueless, was delighted to see Beck. "It's Beck! Let's go say hi—"

Before she could finish her sentence, she saw Beck walk toward Celeste and Matthias.

She huffed, "Why is Beck going to them again? So annoying."

It had been a while since Beck had shown up.

O|

The moment he appeared, Kieran's expression darkened. And when he saw Beck walk toward Celeste, he turned and made his way over to her too.

C 410

Sering Kieran standing beside Celeste, Beck didn't acknowledge him and instead spoke directly to Celeste, "been a while."

Celeste nodded politely, exchanging small talk. “Been busy **lately**?”

Beck replied, “Yeah, a bit. I’ve been on business trips out of town recently—just got back this **morning**.”

“It’s

Even though he had been traveling, he had still learned almost immediately that Trevor and Celeste were finally heading to the court to formalize their divorce.

It had already been over half a year since they signed the divorce agreement last year. Now, at last, they were about to be officially divorced. 2

Just a little more than twenty days left before the divorce was **finalized**, then he could finally-

Noticing that Tanner was still talking to Celeste, Beck tucked away the emotion in his eyes. After briefly greeting her and Matthias, he didn’t linger or interrupt further.

Miles was chatting with Wynn and Linda. When he saw Miles wave him over, Beck hesitated for a second before walking **over**.

Wynn greeted him calmly, “When did you get back?”

“This morning.”

Hearing this, Miles asked, “What about Trevor? He’s been out for a few days now—when’s he coming back?”

Just as Miles finished his sentence, Wynn’s phone rang.

She glanced at the caller ID and smiled, clearly in a good mood. Raising her phone, she said with a grin, “He just got off the **plane**.”

With that, she looked down and replied to Trevor’s message

Seeing how close she and Trevor seemed, Beck took a sip of wine and then turned to glance at Celeste—his lips curving into a faint smile.

At that moment, Celeste looked up from her conversation and met his gaze.

Seeing him smiling and seemingly in good spirits, she didn’t think too much about it, gave him a polite nod, and then looked away.

Half an hour later, the banquet **was** coming to an end.

Celeste and Matthias were preparing to bid farewell to the host, Ronan Sinclair. As they made their wa goodbye, they happened to run into Beck and Miles” group.

er to say

They were all important guests to Ronan, so when he saw they were leaving, he insisted on personally escorting them downstairs.

As the group headed down, even though Celeste and Wynn had both spoken during the banquet, they never exchanged a single word with each other.

## **Linda**

, who was still irritated at the sight of Celeste, kept glaring at her back the whole way.

Ronan hadn’t initially noticed the tension between them, but on the way down, he started to pick up on the odd

atmosphere.

Still, he chose not to pry.

Once they reached the ground floor, just as Celeste and Mathias were about to take their leave, they saw Trevor getting out of a car.

Ronan chuckled, “Mr. Fleming, didn’t you say you were busy? What brings you here?”

Linda quickly cut in, casting a glance at Celeste and raising her voice, “Trev just got back from a trip. He’s here to pick Wynn up!”

Ronan laughed, “Ah, so it’s a show of affection, then.”

Trevor gave Celeste and Matthias a nod in greeting.

They just responded with a nod.

Thet Matthias said to Ronan, “Mr. Sinclair, we’ll be heading off now.”

Ronan replied, “Alright. Let’s get together again sometime

Celeste and Matthias nodded and said nothing more as they turned and left.

Once in the car, Matthias **was** tempted to complain, but remembering that Celeste was about to divorce Trevor, he figured there was no point wasting time and kept quiet.

Just then, Celeste’s phone rang.



It **was** a call from Caleb.

Celeste looked at the screen and, after a moment's thought, chose not to answer.

Matthias noticed and couldn't help commenting, "Caleb's honestly a great guy. You're getting divorced anyway- are you really not going to give him a chance?"

Celeste put the phone down and shook her head. "I don't feel that way about him right now. Agreeing to date him just because he likes me—that would be irresponsible."

"But at least try, right? Just because you don't like him now doesn't mean you won't like him later."

Celeste shook her head again. "If I fall for him in the future, then I'll deal with it in the future."

Matthias sighed. "Alright"

The next day, not long after Celeste arrived at the office, her phone buzzed with a string of messages.

She paused when she saw them. They were all bank transfer notifications.

And the person transferring the large amount of funds was Trevor.

Seeing the endless string of deposits, Celeste quickly realized something—Trevor was formally carrying out the divorce agreement and transferring to her the cash assets he had promised.

They hadn't even officially filed for divorce yet, and he was already handing over the agreed-upon property?

She **was** proven right not long after.

About ten minutes after the transfers came through, Jason called her. "Ms. Rodriguez, Mr. Fleming plans to transfer all of your entitled assets today.

The cash portion—his lawyer said he's already transferred it to you. As for the real estate, all relevant documents and procedures have been processed.

"I'll head over shortly to pick them up, and once I have everything, I'll deliver it to you personally."

Celeste agreed. "Alright, just come find me at YodaVision later." 3

Jason replied, "Alright."

