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Chapter 231

See no evil, right? He should just go to sleep.

Alex squeezed his eyes shut and prepared to fall asleep.

However, the unceasing sound of running water kept ringing in his ears, beckoning him to take another look.

"It's sometimes such a nuisance to be so sensitive!" he muttered defeatedly as he opened his eyes.

Hearing the sound of the bathroom door opening, he shut his eyes close immediately, pretending to be asleep. He wanted to avoid any further mortification.

He had only shut his eyes for a few seconds when a waft of shampoo drifted into his nose.

Alex's heart skipped a beat, but all he did was squeezed his eyes close tightly.

"Alright, that's enough. Stop pretending to sleep,"

Jessica said playfully, using her foot to nudge at his shoulder.

Alex opened his eyes only to see a pair of slender, fair legs displayed in front of him.

Jessica was wearing some loose pajamas which only concealed the top half of her body, leaving herself bare from below her knees.

She wasn't wearing anything indecent, really, but the problem was, Alex was lying right by her legs. So, if he were to shift his eyes slightly, he would

accidentally see under her skirt into forbidden territory.

"Ahem..." Alex sat up hurriedly, his heart pounding. Little lady, if you continue this behavior, you are going to be ravaged by your boss!

"What's wrong with you? I wasn't even using much force," Jessica asked, puzzled. She was sure she only kicked him gently and she was barefoot as well, so his reaction was rather surprising to her.

"That is, I just wanted to sit up," Alex explained awkwardly.

Noticing Alex's change in demeanor, Jessica finally realized the issue at hand. Her face flushed brightly, resembling a ripe, red apple.

She hastily climbed into bed, tucking herself under the

blanket until she was modestly covered. She then called out sternly, "Mr. Jefferson, you really are a pervert! Taking advantage of every single opportunity..." she commented.

Alex felt the sudden urge to bash his head against the wall. I swear, had I really been a pervert, would I sit up?

Besides, had he really been a pervert, he would have seduced her by now.

"Go switch off the lights," Jessica ordered, her head was the only thing uncovered by the blanket.

"Alright," Alex stood up and switched the lights off, before walking back to his bedding and lying down.

Alex had just laid down when Jessica spoke up again, "Don't you dare have any dirty thoughts, get to sleep

immediately!"

"Had you not kick me, I would have been asleep by now," Alex muttered, rolling his eyes.

To be honest, Jessica trusted Alex completely.

However, most women were complicated; their hearts might say one thing but something else might come out from their mouths.

"Well, just don't think indecently, alright? And you aren't allowed to climb into my bed in the middle of the night!" Jessica babbled on nervously.

"Ah, why don't I just sleep on the couch in the living room," Alex laughed, half-exasperated.

"Alright, I'm just teasing you. You are a real gentleman after all. How can I not trust you?" Worried

that Alex was truly angry, Jessica placated him hurriedly.

Truth be told, she didn't want Alex to sleep in the living room.

"Let's not talk anymore. I want to sleep bow," Alex ended the conversation then and there, deliberately calming his stirred-up feelings down.

They fell silent, with only the sound of their breathing filling the night air. Somehow, the whole room was filled with a sense of warm intimacy.

"Are you asleep?" It had been more or less ten minutes before Jessica spoke up again. She leaned over the bed to look at Alex who was laying on the ground.

"Not yet, but I'm about to," Alex replied as he stared

up at the ceiling.

"I can't sleep. Can we just chat?" Jessica asked sheepishly.

"Sure, you speak. I'll listen. Make sure you say something interesting though. Otherwise, I can't promise I'll be able to stay awake," Alex teased gently, smiling.

"Hmph, you dare? If I see you sleeping, I'll kick you awake," she promised, huffing a little.

"Oh, you are a feisty one. Aren't you? How dare you speak to your boss this way?" Alex mocked her.

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In the dark, Jessica didn't take Alex's threat seriously. Instead, she asked curiously, "Mr. Jefferson, may I ask you something?"

"Sure," Alex replied casually.

"What is up with you and Heather? Are you really not going to tell her that you are a chairman?" Jessica asked quizzically.

"No," Alex turned restlessly, saying slowly, "With the state of our relationship... it wouldn't matter if I didn't tell her."

He didn't feel like talking about Heather right now.

To be honest, he wasn't even sure why he held onto the marriage for so long.

"What if she likes you...I meant, what if she falls for you because of your position as a chairman? Wouldn't that be a sick joke?" Jessica mused.

Even though Heather only visited the chairman's office twice before, her womanly instincts told Jessica that Heather was probably already cheating mentally.

"That's right. That would be funny." Alex laughed, somewhat self-deprecatingly.

His own wife fancied his other persona. Could there be a funnier joke played on him?

"Did she, by any chance, bring up divorce?" Jessica, who had fallen silent moments ago, spoke up suddenly.

As she was asking this question, she had subconsciously shifted herself down to look at Alex, even though all she could see was a dark outline.

"She did for multiple times too. She even prepared the divorce papers, but I don't want to, for the sake of my son." Alex sighed dejectedly.

This wasn't a secret anyway, so he felt there was no need to evade her questions.

Besides, during this period of emotional upheaval, nobody ever listened to him lament. Somehow, without knowing the reason why, he felt that Jessica might be a good listener.

"That's true. Divorces tend to leave adverse consequences on a child's growth." Jessica agreed, but inside, she felt a slight twinge of sorrow.

"Yeah. Forget it. Let's just sleep now." Alex turned over once again.

"Okay." Jessica nodded, not pushing it any further.

Soon after, Jessica could hear the soft exhalations from a sleeping Alex as she lay awake, sleepless.

Laying on her side, she stared down at Alex's silhouette. Her mind tangled so she couldn't sleep much that night.

The next day, after breakfast. Alex brought Jessica to the square to meet up with the rest for the outing.

Alex was aware of Zachariah's intentions for the outing. So he had prepared to deal with him once and for all.

Zachariah's family lived in Airedale, a pretty classy area, so the rich kids whom Zachariah knew were nobody to sneeze at.

When they reached the plaza, they could already see Zachariah with a group of young adults waiting for them.

"Come along now. Get into the car. Our first stop is the Southern Canyon." Zachariah glanced briefly at Jessica before beckoning everybody to get into the car.

Those rich kids were sizing up Alex and Jessica as well, but most of them fixed their gaze on Jessica.

That day, Jessica was looking particularly stunning. She was wearing a pair of skin-tight blue jeans and white shoes, paired with a white shirt. With her slim legs and captivating figure, she was impossible to

ignore. In the car, the driver drove distractedly, turning his head every now and then to admire her beauty.

Several hours later, they finally reached their destination, the Southern Canyon.

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The Southern Canyon was established by a group of private owners. It was known as nature's gallery for its gorgeous scenery. Because it was privately owned, outsiders were not allowed in.

There was a lake that was about ten kilometers wide

besides a canyon stretching out for miles.

Zachariah and the rest had Elmina Lake in mind as their first destination.

Anybody who could afford to vacation here was obviously somebody important. Sitting by the lake and soaking in some sunlight under an umbrella was an indescribable experience.

From the way Zachariah and his friends were waiting with anticipation in the reception area, you would think they truly were here to have fun.

The truth was, today's outing was organized by some of the most influential families in Airedale. Those who attended were influential young men, all destined to carry on their families' legacy. Today's gathering was an opportunity for them to form mutually beneficial relationships.

Hence, besides Zachariah, everybody else naturally assumed Alex and Jessica were influential people as well. Hence, they conversed with them eagerly on their own accord.

Some sat by the lake sunbathing, others sat in the pavilion, chatting and laughing amicably.

Amidst these people, Alex could say he knew none of them.

However, with a couple as attractive as they were, the two of them drew the eyes of many.

Some guys simply couldn't tear their eyes away from Jessica, she was absolutely bewitching and truly a goddess!

Jessica was exuding a goddess-like charm that day,

her charisma was simply irresistible.

Only Zachariah sneered, thinking scornfully to himself. Sure Alex has a handsome salary, but he is still just an employee, the same goes for Jessica. How could these two ever mingle with these wealthy heirs?

Who would care about you once I expose your true identity?

Zachariah gave Alex a once-over before sneering mockingly. "Alex, you are dressed up today. This must have cost you a few hundreds, huh?"

Hahaha! At his jeering remark, many snorted with laughter.

Several of them were already curious about Alex's status; but seeing how Zachariah mocked him, they

grew even more interested.

After all, they knew the two were invited by Zachariah himself.

"Zachariah, these must be the wage-earners you were talking about."

"That can't be right. Wage-earners are inferior to us. How could he tag along?"

"Could he be some sort of boss?"

Zachariah stood among his gossiping friends with a contemptuous look in his eyes.

Zachariah's old man had some power over Airedale, so quite a number of heirs would try to ingratiate themselves with Zachariah.

Zachariah laughed scornfully as he said, "Everybody, don't laugh now! Who knows, he could be some executive from Four Seas Corporation."

"Aren't executives just the hired help as well?" Someone asked disdainfully.

"Perhaps someone felt that being the top dog in Four Seas Corporation was somehow better than you bosses," Zachariah said meaningfully, provoking them further.

"A dog is just a dog. Who cares if you are the top dog of some corporation!" They stared daggers towards Alex with derision dripping from their voices.

Alex curled his lips at them, not bothering to deal with them.

He wanted to see just what was Zachariah plotting.

However, Jessica couldn't handle this anymore. She stared at Zachariah icily. "Zachariah, aren't we all here to have fun? What on earth are you trying to do here?"

Another stunning woman walked up as well, unable to witness this any longer. She frowned at Zachariah, saying, "Zachariah, didn't you invite these two along? What exactly was your intention?"

The lovely woman was Carlene Bolton, the Boltons' eldest daughter.

The Boltons were very affluent figures in Airedale.
The moment she spoke up, Zachariah and the rest didn't dare to defy her.

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"Carlene, don't bother with him. He's just some pretentious jerk."

At this moment, a young man in a plaid jacket stepped forward. He glanced disdainfully at Alex for a second before turning his gaze towards Carlene Bolton.

He was Kurt Taylor, the Taylor family's young master and heir.

He was an acquaintance of Zachariah and had heard rumors of Alex from him about how he was just a

wage-earner in a reputable company. But he was shamelessly putting up airs in Airedale. He was surely the epitome of an imposter!

Last night, Zachariah had told tales about Alex to his friends, embellishing how arrogant and shameless he was. This led everyone to vow that they would gang up to humiliate Alex, promising to give Zachariah a chance to take his revenge.

This was the reason why everybody was joining in on humiliating Alex.

"Everyone is here to have fun, so there's no need for you to act this way." Carlene Bolton shook her head with dismissal, she was not bothered after that.

Alex glanced at Carlene, transfixed on her beauty.

Nevertheless, she seemed rather aloof like a lady

who could break hearts from a thousand miles without a single glance.

Meanwhile, Kurt was checking out Jessica with an admiring look on his face.

Despite his crush on Carlene, he had to admit that Jessica seemed prettier than Carlene.

Swallowing the sudden lump in his throat, Kurt held out a hand gallantly towards Jessica. "Hello, miss. It's very nice to meet you. I'm Kurt Taylor, the Taylor family's Young Master."

This fellow spoke with a slight lisp.

After hearing his self-introduction, Alex, who was still drinking water, started choking inadvertently.

Hahaha!

"Coat Tailor?"

Hahahaha, surely this fellow's name was a tad too amusing? Who named this poor soul? Hahaha!

While Alex was laughing rather inappropriately, everybody else was holding their breath with trepidation.

Kurt's biggest pet peeve was when people make fun of his name.

How dare this wage-earner mock him this way? Did he want to die?

"Are you laughing at me?" Kurt sputtered while pointing a finger accusingly towards Alex.

Nobody ever dared to laugh at his name, let alone

making lame puns about it. How dare this lowly rat mock him? Did he have a death wish?

"I dare you to laugh again, and I'll rip your mouth off your damn face. Now tell me, what the hell were you laughing at?" Kurt fumed.

"Oh, it's nothing. You have a great name." Alex grinned, mirth dancing in his eyes.

Everybody else started to read his name silently, mimicking Alex. Kurt Taylor, Coat Tailor? Coat Tailor?

Hahahaha! That's such a bad pun, but somehow hilarious. Hahaha!

Noticing how everybody was muffling their laughter, Kurt couldn't take it anymore. He started to lunge towards Alex, ready to beat him up, when Jessica held him back gently. "What's the point of doing this?" She said softly. "Didn't we come out to have some fun? Being angry would just spoil the party."

"Alright, beautiful lady." Kurt Taylor's expression changed in an instant as he smiled winningly, reaching over to hold Jessica's hand. "Hey gorgeous, it's wonderful to meet you. May I know your name?"

Alex scoffed and he narrowed his eyes.

Firstly, these people ganged up on him to mock him including Kurt Taylor. Now, in an abrupt change of events, he wanted to flirt with his companion?

Jessica smiled politely as she shook hands with him before returning immediately to Alex's side. Her actions were reserved, yet unoffending.

After all, it was already a sign of respect for her to shake his hand. Kurt Taylor's tone was very

courteous, but his gaze kept roaming salaciously over her body. That made her feel rather uneasy.

Just as Kurt was about to strike up a conversation with her, he noticed Carlene was striding away alone. Hurriedly, with his heart thumping, he scurried after her.

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He has been pursuing Carlene Bolton. Besides, his father also urged for him to succeed in this matter.

This gathering was initiated by the Taylor family. On

the surface, the purpose of the gathering was to let the youngsters mingle with each other. However, it was really a ploy for him to win Carlene's heart.

Kurt Taylor was regretting his action of showing interest in another woman in front of Carlene just now. I really made a fool out of myself.

"Carlene, do you want a drink? I'll fetch you a bottle." Kurt smiled as he caught up to Carlene.

"No, thanks," Carlene replied. There was not a trace of smile on her face.

She came to a pavilion and took a seat.

The weather was scorching hot outside.

"Carlene, please don't misunderstand. I didn't mean it just now." Kurt hurriedly explained himself when he

noticed that Carlene was ignoring him.

Carlene turned around to look at Kurt and smiled, "Taylor, you're overthinking this. What you do does not concern me at all."

She knew exactly what Kurt meant. However, she could not care less about Kurt flirting with other women since she did not like him anyway.

Kurt felt rather awkward and did not know what to say.

"Hahaha! Sorry to keep you guys waiting!"

That laugh got Kurt out of his fix.

Matt Taylor approached them with a mic in his hand.

Matt Taylor was Kurt's father, the head of the Taylor

family. Matt was the organizer for the gathering this time too.

He cleared his throat after standing before everyone. Matt looked around and smiled, "Everyone present here is the crème de la crème of your families. I think you guys are well aware of the rules for the gathering this time and I won't nag further. One thing I want to emphasize is for you guys to look after yourselves while having fun!"

He waved his hands afterward and continued, "Our trip this time is at the Elmina Lake of the Southern Canyon. There are a lot of fishes here and we've prepared some fishing rods for everyone. Your meals will depend on your own harvests!"

"Okay!"

The youngsters cheered at his announcement.

They were all from the upper class, and fishing was a fundamental skill to them.

They salivated at the idea of barbequed fresh fish.

The youngsters cheered and went to take their fishing rods before heading to the beach.

Some pretty girls were already lying down, getting ready for a sunbathing session.

Of course, the main purpose of this gathering was to make friends.

A number of people had wine in their hands while clinking glasses with each other as they exchanged name cards.

However, Zachariah and his friends did not want to

miss the chance to ridicule Alex.

They would seize every single opportunity to mock Alex, no matter where they went.

Alex seemed impassive at their derision. Zachariah's tactics were not worthy of him losing his cool.

"Let's go and fish." Alex said to Jessica.

It'd be quite fun to enjoy barbequed fish after fishing. There are a lot of fishing rods and fish bait anyway.

"Sure. I don't know how to fish though. I'll just watch you." Jessica smiled.

"Don't worry. It's quite easy. I'll teach you later." Alex grinned.

The two of them went to get their fishing rods and

bait. They were about to head to the lake for fishing when Zachariah and Kurt approached them.

"Don't touch those. I bought all these. Did I say you could use them?" Kurt snorted at Alex.

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Zachariah and his friends had a contemptuous look on their faces.

He enjoyed seeing Alex being humiliated like this.

Zachariah cast a glance at Jessica and snorted to

himself. Jessica Saffin, did you really fall for this kind of man? He's such a loser. So what if he receives over a million in pay each month? He's just a wage-earner! This guy was a dud compared to Taylor.

Alex narrowed his eyes while Jessica tugged at his arms, "Let's go back. There's nothing fun around here anyway."

Kurt is really over the line here. Why should I stay to suffer his humiliation? Jessica thought to herself.

Alex was the chairman of Four Seas Corporation. Yet, he had to suffer the insults of Zachariah and his friends because of her. Jessica was enraged yet upset that Alex had to put up with all these.

"Hey man, I heard you're quite capable. Why don't you go buy your own fishing rod and come back here? Dogs and losers are not allowed to use my

fishing rods." Kurt mocked.

"You are great."

Alex gave Kurt a derisive thumbs up, his eyes glaring with fury.

"You could use my fishing rod."

Carlene handed her fishing rod over to Alex. She was just about to go and fish with her fishing rod in hand.

Alex put down Kurt's fishing rod and looked at Carlene, "Thanks. I don't really need a fishing rod to fish."

He walked over to the lakeside with Jessica right after.

Kurt scoffed at Alex, "What an idiot! I'd like to see how

you're going to fish without a rod."

"Let's go and see how stupid this fella can get."

Zachariah and his friends burst into a mocking laugh as they followed Alex to the lakeside.

Carlene looked at Alex's silhouette and shrugged.

She followed along to see what was going to happen next.

She was curious how Alex was going to fish without a fishing rod too.

Alex picked up a stick and picked out the leaves. He stood quietly by the lakeside and waited.

The weather is scorching hot but it might be a sign of heavy rain later in the afternoon.

A lot of fish will come near the surface for fresh air in

this weather.

Alex was essentially waiting for the fish to come near the surface, and he was planning to poke at the fish.

The others finally knew what was up his sleeves but had a contemptuous look on their faces.

"I'm going to take his surname if he was able to poke a fish today."

Only martial arts masters in TV drama would poke as a means of fishing. Does this idiot think he could emulate those masters? How ridiculous!

Even Jessica and Carlene thought it was a futile attempt.

One had to take into account the reflection of light in water to accurately position the fish in water, and this

was no easy feat.

Alex did not take heed of the doubtful glances. He lit a cigarette and focused on the condition in the lake.

Sharp senses were second nature to martial arts practitioners.

A normal person would not have been able to discern the condition underneath the surface of the water but he could see through 2 meters below the water.

All of a sudden, Alex noticed a fish approaching the lakeside.

He eyeballed the stick in his hand. It's not big enough. I'll just wait further.

Alex took another puff and waited for another ten seconds.

The next moment, he threw the stick in his hands into the water.

When he picked up the stick, a big fish was being poked through it.

The others widened their eyes in disbelief at the sight.

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He really managed to poke a fish?

It seems like he knows what he's doing.

Some people started to feel a sense of admiration for him.

It was not easy to poke a fish with a stick after all.

"He just got lucky, " Kurt snorted.

"Yeah, he got lucky. I will definitely take his surname if he managed to get another one." Zachariah snickered.

Jessica was excited to see Alex's successful attempt. "Oh, he did it!"

She felt so mad that she wanted to leave when Kurt refused to lend them fishing rods. Revenge is a dish best served cold.

"Go pick some dry branches. I'll barbeque the fish for

you." Alex threw the fish in the bush by the lakeside and smiled.

He planned to poke another fish, then it should be enough for the two of them.

"Sure, no problem." Jessica went to gather some dry branches.

"Hey handsome, what about if you poke another one for me too? I'll prepare the side dishes for you."

Carlene suddenly chimed in.

"No problem." Alex agreed right away.

Their fish would taste bland without side dishes anyway.

Carlene nodded her head. Alex's straightforward demeanor made her cast a second glance at him.

"I heard you're a department manager of the Four Seas Corporation?" Carlene asked suddenly.

Alex turned her head to look at Carlene and nodded his head.

"Um, I'd like to ask which department are you from? You could keep it to yourself if you don't feel like disclosing it though." Carlene added.

"Project Management Department." Alex simply replied and shifted his attention back to the surface of the lake.

He knew these people would not be bothered to check who was the manager of the Project Management Department of the Four Seas Corporation anyway.

Carlene's eyes glinted after Alex replied her.

"Is it true that your company is opening a tender for the advertisement slots of the Galaxy Girls TV program?"

"Yes, is Ms. Bolton interested?" Alex turned around and smiled at her.

"The Boltons want to tender for a time slot but there so many enterprises competing for it. The advertisement fee is going to be sky-high. We are not likely to win against those enterprises anyway."

Carlene shrugged and tried to sound him out.

The Galaxy Girls introduced by the Four Seas
Corporation rose to fame even before the show was aired. The fan base was so large that it was only natural for the advertisement fee to be exorbitantly high. It was near impossible for small to medium

enterprises to make the same offer as large corporations.

The Bolton family had hit their bottleneck in terms of the development of the family business. Hence, they would like to work on their exposure through advertisements to achieve a breakthrough.

Hence, they decided that the Galaxy Girls TV show would be a good start.

However, the Bolton Family business was only a small enterprise in a small city like Airedale. They would need to fork out a hefty sum of money in order to get an advertisement slot in the Galaxy Girls TV show.

Carlene was trying to sound out any useful information from Alex since she overheard that he was a department manager in Four Seas Corporation.

"You might want to give it a try since you're keen to get an advertisement slot. Who knows there will be a surprise?" Alex gave her an enigmatic smile.

Jack came looking for Alex the other day and told him his intention in offering incentives to the small and medium enterprises in the county. Hence, Alex had actually planned to prioritize tenders from the enterprises within the province.

At the same time, he was contemplating to reduce the advertisement fees in a controlled manner.

"Really?" Carlene's eyes glinted. Is this guy trying to trick me or something?

"We would know on the day of tender." Alex smiled again and turned around to focus on the lake surface.

Carlene did not doubt Alex since he was the manager of the Project Management Department. He should know a lot of inside news.

Kurt was incensed to see the woman he was pursuing chatting happily together with Alex from afar. He snorted and approached Alex.

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"Carlene, the Bolton family is looking to tender for the Galaxy Girls TV show advertisement slots too?" Kurt approached them and started chatting Carlene up.

"Yes, it's in our plans," Carlene replied curtly.

"My dad knows the vice-chairman of the Four Seas Corporation. Why not I ask my dad to introduce the two of you some time?" Kurt was almost bragging.

"Really?" Carlene was excited to hear him and looked eagerly at Kurt.

Although Alex was the manager of the Project Management Department, his influence would not be as far-reaching compared to a vice chairman.

The vice-chairman was the second-largest shareholder of the Four Seas Corporation after all.

"Of course it's for real. Why would I lie to you? My dad would definitely be glad to help you out," Kurt nodded his head and paused for a moment, "Besides, my father mentioned that President Sawyer promised to

introduce him to the chairman. As long as we could seize the opportunity and get the chairman's stamp of approval, we would definitely help your family out."

Kurt boasted as he cast a side glance at Alex.

Alex only smiled coldly in response.

"Thank you so much!" Carlene nodded her head as she started warming up to Kurt.

"You're most welcome, "Kurt smiled and added, "Carlene, let's go over there and let me barbeque the fish for you."

Carlene looked hesitant. She just told Alex to help her poke a fish.

However, she decided to go against her word to butter up Kurt who could introduce the chairman of

the Four Seas Corporation to the Bolton Family.

"Alex, I'm sorry. You don't need to poke a fish for me anymore. By the way, this is the side dish I've prepared. I'll just give it to you guys." Carlene apologized to Alex and handed him a small bag.

"Sure."

Alex smiled and took over the side dish.

Kurt looked provokingly at Alex. So what if you're a department manager of the Four Seas Corporation? I could make a girl ignore you with just a few words. Loser!

Kurt felt his act was rather pointless when he saw that Alex was merely focusing on the surface of the lake even when he tried to provoke him. With that, he took Carlene to the other side for fishing.

Alex managed to poke another fish soon after while Jessica gathered some more dry branches. The two of them started a fire to barbeque the fish.

The others were starting to get tired from fishing by the lakeside. How many do we have to fish in order to feed everyone here?

The rich kids soon gave up the idea of fishing. They went to take a rest at the pavilion instead.

The view there was quite breathtaking. There was a small island not far from them.

The sun was hanging high up in the sky, hence it was quite warm. The boys wanted to jump into the crystal clear water for a swim.

Soon, someone suggested, "It's so hot right now. Why

don't we go for a swim?"

The other cheered at the idea. At the same time, some boys' attention were focused on girls like Jessica and Carlene.

There were a number of pretty girls other than the two of them. They were overjoyed at the presence of these girls, to say the least.

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Chapter 239

Jessica, Carlene, and the girls were covered in sweat from the scorching hot weather. However, they were on the fence at the suggestion.

It would be quite awkward since there will be quite a number of people watching us. Besides, we did not bring our swimming suits.

Kurt suddenly chimed in, "It's quite boring to just swim. Why not we make it a competition?"

This suggestion piqued the others' interest. "A competition? Like how?"

"A swimming competition, of course. A guy and a girl will make a team," Kurt said as he pointed at the small island at the center of the lake, "Any group that makes it to the island first will be the winner."

Sure!

The rich kids were all hyped up about the idea.

A young man stepped forward, "Since it's a competition, there should be a reward for winning right?"

Kurt nodded his head, "Of course. But, we have to make the rules clear. Only the champion gets the money. The rest will fork out a hundred million each to fund the prize for the winner."

What? A hundred million?

Even though this was a gathering for the upper class, many would not be able to fork out a hundred million for a competition. It was impossible if one were to go bankrupt for just a menial bet like this.

Some kids from less wealthy families wanted to pull out from the competition in view of financial constraints.

Kurt smiled. I will make sure that bastard Alex joins the competition. If he refuses to join, I will humiliate him in front of everyone.

I'm definitely winning this competition. I've started swimming since I was young after all. As long as he joins this competition, I will make sure that he could not afford to pay the one hundred million!

He's just a wage-earner. Even if he's a department manager of Four Seas Corporation, it's impossible for him to fork out that amount of money!

I'll allow him to sign an IOU but he has to beg me first!

Kurt cast a glance at Zachariah, and he walked over to Kurt's side in an instance.

"Alex, so are the two of you a team?" Zachariah was

almost instructing Alex and Jessica.

"We're not joining." Jessica rejected outright.

"Hey pretty, you have to play by our rules since you're here at the gathering I organized." Kurt added,

"Yeah, don't try to stand out by refusing to join the group activity." Zachariah grinned.

Jessica's face sank. Zachariah and Kurt are really so despicable. How could they force a bet on someone else?

Alex looked at the two and said, "So you're going to join the bet too?"

"I..." Zachariah grimaced.

I don't have a hundred million for this bet.

However, an idea struck him and he grinned, "I don't have a female partner, so I'm not qualified to join."

Alex mocked him, "So are you trying to stand out too?"

Zachariah's face distorted from the derision, and even Kurt started frowning. This bastard is quite difficult to deal with.

Alex continued to mock Zachariah, "Fine. Since you don't have the guts, I'm not going to force you." Then, he looked over at Kurt, "So the losers are going to pay one hundred million each to the winner? Why do I feel like you guys could not afford it?"

"Hey brat, are you looking down on my family?" Kurt was enraged.

Alex looked at the others and smiled, "Since the Taylor family is so rich, why not the two of us bet one billion each?"

One billion?

The others were stunned. They thought Alex was going insane.

Isn't this guy a wage-earner? How could he afford the one billion bet?

"Huh? Could you afford it?" Kurt gave Alex a disdained look.

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FINDING OUT THE BILLIONAIRE

All eyes were on Alex.

They were mostly scornful looks.

Carlene shook her head at the absurdity. Her impression toward Alex was quite good. However...

She turned around to leave as she could not bring herself to keep up with what would happen next.

"I am betting my life if I could not pay up by then." Alex snorted.

"Is your life worth one billion though? Why don't you take a good look at yourself in the mirror?" Kurt laughed mockingly.

The others burst into a derisive laugh.

Alex merely smiled. Fine.

They are just a bunch of clowns. I will just make a fool out of myself if I care about their comments.

"Fine, one billion then." Alex smiled gently.

Zachariah furrowed his brows when he saw that Jessica did not try to stop Alex from betting.

We are talking about one billion. Why isn't she afraid of Alex not being able to pay up if he loses the bet?

However, he did not comment further.

Alex and Jessica are going to suffer when they lose later.

Carlene frowned upon seeing everything. Alex is just a manager. How could he afford the one billion bet?

She had doubts but she kept mum about it.

This competition was initiated by Kurt. She promised to be in the same team as him because his father had connections with the vice-chairman of the Four Seas Corporation. She felt that it would be quite embarrassing to take the money if they were to win the competition though.

There were five teams in the end. Kurt and Carlene; Alex and Jessica; and another three pairs of participants.

Everyone was in an uproar when the name list of the competition was announced.

The participating girls were all hot!

Jessica, Carlene, and Susanna... They all had their plus points.

It was a visual feast to be able to see so many pretty girls swimming.

However, nobody noticed that Kurt stealthily went to a corner and sent a text using his phone.

After the text was sent out, a young man from the Taylor family standing at the opposite side of the lake dived into the water.

Matt smiled and approached them, "Then I'll be the judge! Participants, please get ready."

He gave Kurt a thumbs up to cheer him on.

Kurt would be able to bag four billion if he won the

competition!

Even after splitting two billion with Carlene, they would still have two billion left.

Two billion was quite a hefty amount to the Taylor family.

Their net annual income did not even amount to one billion.

Haha! My son has been swimming since young, and he has won a number of competitions too. He's certainly going to be the fastest!

I heard this Bolton girl is also a good swimmer, so they're definitely winning this competition!

On the other hand, Jessica was quite nervous standing next to Alex.

"I... I'm not good at swimming." Jessica said in a soft voice.

"It's okay, I'm here." Alex smiled and soothed her.

Jessica was visibly relaxed after seeing that Alex was very confident.

Even though one billion was peanuts to Alex, she did not wish for him to lose this competition.

Kurt felt more assured looking at Jessica's worried look.

He was most unfamiliar with Alex's team among the other four teams that participated.

He was pleased to confirm that Alex's team was inferior to his.

My team is definitely going to win this!

At the same time, Matt announced via the megaphone, "Let the competition begin!"

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