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Chapter 195 What's Your Relationship

Although Janessa asked Rayan to leave first, he didn't go. Instead, he waited for her to go together. The moment she got in the car, Janessa didn't utter a single word.

As the car drove steadily on the way to the Qiu Group's annual meeting, Janessa blankly watched everything they were passing by.

There were only silence between them, until Rayan's phone rang.

It was so quiet inside the car that even Janessa could hear the person on the other end of the line.

"Hello. Something wrong?" Rayan sounded so frigid as though he was talking to someone unimportant.

Surely, it wasn't Gracie. Otherwise, he wouldn't be so indifferent.

At this moment, Janessa felt that she knew a little bit more about Rayan than she thought she did.

She couldn't believe how familiar she was with him now. Apparently, she could even guess whom he could be talking to on the phone just based on his tone.

Janessa focused on the view outside her window to distract herself, hoping that she could tune out the voice in the phone.

However, Rayan's conversation with the person on the other end of the phone seemed louder to her the more she tried to ignore it.

"Are you close, Rayan? I'm almost at the Qiu Group. Let's go together, okay?" Janessa could hear the voice of a woman on the phone much clearer this time.

It sounded like Courtney.

She was the only one who had been recently linked to Rayan. Although he introduced Courtney at the award ceremony as his girlfriend, they had had no other interaction since then.

Rumors claimed that Rayan and Courtney coming out as a couple before was merely a publicity stunt for her then upcoming play.

After the opening, however, the rumors about their relationship slowly died down.

"No, you can go on ahead. I'm with someone." Before Courtney could reply, Rayan already ended the call.

Even Janessa felt sorry for her.

Right after Rayan hung up the phone, the car pulled up in front of the venue. He got off the car first, and then walked to Janessa's side of the car to open the door for her like a gentleman.

Janessa looked at him and saw that Rayan was waiting for her, with his eyes hinting her to hold his arm.

It would have been okay to take his hand, but she was no longer his wife.

Naturally, she was hesitant to accept his invitation to walk together. When she was about to reach for his hand, some reporters with flashing cameras came rushing towards them.

As soon as Rayan escorted Janessa off the car, they saw Courtney slowly walking to the entrance, surrounded by a crowd.

Apparently, she arrived long before them, but only got off at this moment.

It seemed that she had planned to appear in Rayan's photos and let the media criticize him and Janessa.

Janessa discreetly glared at Courtney, remembering the time she told her about the consequences she would bring Janessa for being too close to Rayan.

'Ah, forget it. I'm just his temporary date anyway. I am not his girlfriend, ' Janessa thought to herself. Even if she really wanted to take revenge and win Rayan, Courtney should go after Gracie, not Janessa.

Just as she predicted, some carping reporters had begun to grill her with intrusive questions.

"Courtney! Aren't you Mr. Lu's girlfriend? Why didn't you show up together today? Mr. Lu even came with a different woman. Have you two broken up?"

"Courtney, did you back off from Mr. Lu so he and his ex-wife can get back together?"

"Courtney! Do you have anything to say to Mr. Lu and his ex-wife?"

The media were always ready to bombard personalities with harsh words and questions. Amidst all the queries, Courtney kept walking towards the entrance. The reporters, however, didn't stop following her. Indeed, their questions were awfully troublesome.

She shot them a look with a tinge of vexation, then glanced at Rayan behind her. Before anyone could even notice, she quickly

withdrew her gaze.

"Well, you know, Mr. Lu and I actually have always been good friends. What we said last time was simply for our own amusement." Courtney felt a pang in her chest, but she still tried to force a smile.

Of course, the media did not fail to capture that smile.

The group of reporters in front of Rayan had asked him almost the same questions, but he chose to ignore them and just went straight into the venue with Janessa.

Despite his refusal to answer, the media were happy to receive different responses from him and Courtney. Clearly, they have gathered absolutely enough materials for them to come up with controversial news today.

Except for one who waited to ask follow-up questions, the reporters all left looking so satisfied. They were obviously racing to release an entertainment article that could make the headlines.

"Did you really just let your girlfriend be seized by the media? You literally just passed by her and pretended you didn't see her. That's cold!" Janessa was in awe of Rayan's total indifference, so she couldn't help but give him a piece of her mind.

She actually felt sorry for Courtney. For so many years, Courtney had been in love with this man, so much so that she chose to step into the entertainment circle and get involved in this mess just so she could get close to him.

Rayan didn't say anything back. Instead, he cast Janessa a sharp glance and loosened his grip. He let go of her and sternly strode away.

Janessa was taken aback. She found it strange that he seemed so easily pissed off when she didn't say much.

Walking alone, she lifted her skirt a little with her hand. Since this annual meeting of the Qiu Group was an occasion she had control over, she felt a bit more confident and a little less afraid of this callous man.

However, the sound of high heels clacking on the floor followed closely behind her.

"Miss Qiu, do you have a minute?"

Courtney apparently made it into the venue after being surrounded by a lot of reporters earlier. She caught up to Janessa and asked to talk to her as soon as she could.

Even without her high heels, Courtney was still slightly taller than Janessa. This, unfortunately, made her appear a little weaker than Courtney.

'You too?'

It suddenly occurred to Janessa that Shelby also said the same thing to her just this afternoon before she left the office.

Of course, it made her wonder what it was about today that these women all wanted to talk to her.

Rayan was nowhere close, so Janessa didn't feel the need to hold back.

"So, what is this about?" Janessa knew that this woman had nothing good to say to her, so she was certain that it must have something to do with Rayan.

Courtney looked around and gestured to a couch at the far end of the room. "Let's talk there."

Compared to how she faced the media earlier, her sweet and gentle look had now faded into ruthless, hostile eyes.

"I remember telling you something important before, Janessa. What was it? Oh, right. I told you not to get too close to Rayan, or else I'll have you suffer the consequences... right? Or have you forgotten?"

Courtney didn't have the slightest intention of seeing this woman at all. Indeed, it was because of Gracie that she had missed her chance with Rayan for seven years. As though that wasn't enough, Rayan and Janessa had been together for three years after Gracie left. There was no way that she was going to let anyone else get in her way after waiting for ten years.

She was now more determined to prove to Rayan that she was the only one for him.

"There's no issue here. As his assistant, there should be no problem with me being close to him. It's my job. Miss Leng, if you're so eager to have me completely stay away from Mr. Lu, why don't you go ahead and show me the consequences you were telling me about?"

"Oh, wow. Are you seriously challenging me, Janessa?" Courtney narrowed her eyes as though she was trying to look through Janessa. To her surprise, she found that Janessa was no longer the same since the first time they met. There was now ferocity in her eyes, apart from something else that she couldn't quite understand.

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