

## Chapter 251 Three Invitations

And so, three new assistants were added to the workforce. Every day, when Janessa came into Rayan's office for the daily report, he would deliberately ask after the newcomers and how they were settling in.

Janessa had known from the start that these women had been purposely brought in by Rayan for a reason. As for what it was, she didn't care to know.

Janessa needed some documents signed by Rayan one day. She got up from her desk and was about to enter his office when she bumped into Samantha, who was carrying a glass of water.

"Oh, I'm so sorry, Janessa. It was an accident. I came over because I wanted to ask if you have anything for me to do. Are your clothes okay?" She placed her glass on a nearby table and offered some tissues to wipe the water with.

"No, thanks. I can do it myself." Janessa set the file on the same table and dabbed at the wet stains on her chest.

She was wearing a white, chiffon blouse today, and the splashed water made the fabric see-through. Needless to say, she looked rather indecent.

How could she face Rayan with such an appearance?

"I'm really sorry, Janessa," Samantha said again. She gave an apologetic smile, but her eyes flashed with cunning satisfaction.

Although it disappeared in the next second, it certainly didn't escape Janessa's notice.

She knew then that the new assistant had intentionally bumped into her. If it had truly been an accident, Samantha would have gotten some water on her, too.

Her clothes were dry and pristine, however. Janessa was the only one who got wet.

On the bright side, at least it was just water. If it had been coffee, she might not be able to salvage her blouse.

"It's okay. I'm going to change my clothes." Janessa picked up the documents and was about to head to the locker room when Samantha shot out an arm to stop her. The woman's eyes were fixed on the folder.

"I'm guessing that Mr. Lu needs to sign those papers, right? You can take your time changing, and I'll take care of this for you. It should be an easy thing to do." Samantha was practically hopping in place. The thought of being alone with Rayan—no matter how briefly—sent a thrill of excitement throughout her body.

She was confident with herself, and didn't think that there was a man in the world who would be drawn to her perfect figure. To her thinking, all she needed was a chance to be with Rayan, and he would inevitably fall for her charms.

Janessa was no stranger to underhanded schemes, and she recognized Samantha's intentions right away. Even so, she decided not to call out the other woman.

Since Rayan seemed so keen on the three new women, she might as well create an opportunity for him to get to know them better.

"All right," Janessa said lightly. "Thank you, I appreciate it." She handed the documents to Samantha and gave her a pat on the shoulder, then turned and went to the locker room.

She usually kept two extra sets of clothes in the company. She wanted to be prepared in case a special situation came up at work.

In the past, she had changed clothes due to unexpected invitations to dinner parties and the like, but this was the first time she was doing so because of a disaster.

When Janessa came back to her desk, she was just in time to see Samantha exit Rayan's office. The woman's face was filled with disappointment.

'Was she... Oh my, so she was rejected by Rayan.'

Janessa had more or less expected this result. Rayan liked to chase and tame his prey. He would never be attracted to an insipid girl like Samantha.

But this outcome left her confused; Rayan had specifically brought these women to the company, and he even made a point of regularly asking her how they were doing.

Why had he refused one of them now, especially one who had taken the initiative to approach him?

Before Janessa could figure out the answer, the phone on her desk rang. She returned to her senses and picked up the receiver.

"Janessa, come to my office. I have something to discuss with you."

Corbin?

Janessa took a look at the direction of the office of Corbin and went there after telling the three new assistants.

"Huh? Did you change your clothes? How come?" Ever attentive, Corbin spotted the difference as soon as Janessa walked in.

"Ugh, don't even mention it. I just had a small 'accident'." She didn't want to talk about Samantha and her childish machinations. The woman was so simple-minded, it wouldn't even take much for Janessa to deal with her.

Her only requirement was that the new assistants do their job properly. As long as they didn't make any trouble for her, they could seduce Rayan to their hearts' content.

Janessa couldn't care less about it.

"Oh. Well, let me get straight to the point then. Those three new assistants were recruited as per Mr. Lu's order, so I suppose..." While Corbin didn't have much first-hand experience with women competing for a man's favor, he was well-informed on the subject. He had watched many TV dramas, after all.

"I know what you mean. I feel like I'm living in an imperial household now and I am the head eunuch who has to take care of everything for His Majesty." The more she thought about it, the more the analogy made sense. Janessa had to take care of those women every day, making sure that they shared equal chances in enticing Rayan.

'I'm just an assistant, damn it. Why do I have to worry about something so ridiculous on top of my job?'

Corbin waved a hand in front of her. "Stop complaining about it. Mr. Lu is bound to see their true colors sooner or later. He will definitely let them go then. Have you noticed that I don't go to your desk anymore? Every day, the office is permeated with the strong smell of three different perfumes! Sometimes I don't even dare to come out of my office." He detested the smell of strong perfume, hence the new tactic of calling Janessa over when he needed something really worked for him.

"Really? I think I'm already used to it." Unlike Corbin, Janessa was unbothered by the cloying scents lingering in the office. Maybe it was really because she had gotten used to it.

"Good for you, then. Anyway, I called you here because I just received three invitations—one for you, one for me, and one for Mr. Lu." As he said this, Corbin handed an envelope to Janessa.

He was vaguely aware that she had ties with the Qiu Group, but he didn't know the exact details.

"Invitation for what? How come all three of us were invited?" It was puzzling cast of characters to invite to an event.

"Imani's engagement?" she exclaimed as she took the card out of the envelope. "Imani isn't even qualified to speak with us, let alone invite us to a personal occasion. What is Aydin planning to do this time?" Janessa didn't know what purpose Aydin had, but she knew it must have something to do with the three of them.

"What do you think of this matter?" Corbin asked. Janessa might be related to Aydin, but as things currently stood, she was firmly in the same team as Corbin.

He had faith in her.

"All I know is that Imani isn't in a position to be inviting Rayan like this. Even though I am the eldest daughter of the Qiu family, the two of us have been adversaries since childhood. I won't be coming to this party."

There was no need for her to attend such a meaningless gathering. It was just an engagement party, not a wedding.

Besides, Janessa was sure that Imani would only be displeased by her presence, while Aydin and his cronies would seize the opportunity to mock her. Janessa preferred to stay out of any unnecessary drama.

"I've guessed as much. This party is in conflict with another meeting, anyway, so I can't go. You, however, have to." Corbin leaned forward on his desk, his eyes fixed firmly on Janessa's.

"Why?" she frowned.

"I heard that Hancock, the Chairman of the Li Group, will be attending. He is one of our valued clients. We need to win his favor. Since I won't be there, I'm afraid I will have to entrust this important task to you."