

Chapter 269 Our Boss Wants To See You

Rylan finally got on to business two days after their arrival.

On this particular day, he had to meet a big shot from Y Country, but the man had a rather special background and was nefariously difficult to get along with.

"You don't need to be present in today's negotiations. Just stay in the hotel and enjoy yourself. Remember to call me if anything happens." He didn't want to risk having Janessa there. The situation could get potentially dangerous, even for him. He should just leave her out of it altogether.

"But—" Janessa tried to protest. 'I came here with you in order to be of assistance.'

To her dismay, Rylan left before she could finish her words.

They had gone sightseeing and tried the local cuisine these last couple of days, so she was pretty exhausted. If she had the choice to stay, then she might as well roll in bed all morning.

It was midday when she finally got up, and the first thing that happened was Alana's video call.

"Yes, Miss Shen, is there anything I can do for you?" Janessa teased as she began brushing her teeth. At the other end of the call, Alana prattled on while applying a hydrating mask on her face.

"It should already be twelve at noon over there in Y Country. How come you got up so late?" Alana smirked and winked as though she had smelled something fishy.

Janessa had never been the type to sleep into the morning. Even if she claimed to have jet lag, two days should have been enough to cure her of it. Yet here she was, rising in the middle of the day. Was it because...

"All right, stop your nasty thoughts right there. I just had a stomachache. Am I not even allowed to spend a whole morning in bed anymore?" Janessa bent down to spit in the sink, then shot Alana a mock glare through the screen.

"I was planning to go out and buy some souvenirs for a particular person, but I'm suddenly feeling tired. I think I'll stay in bed for the rest of the day." She yawned and stretched, her phone still in hand.

"Oh, no! I'm sorry, I'm sorry! You have to go out and buy me those things! I'll reimburse you for everything when you come back. Or how about I treat you to a big meal? Don't be angry, okay? I was wrong. I admit my mistake. Janessa, please." Alana had been meaning to get the items in question for herself, but she couldn't find a chance to travel abroad. It was a happy coincidence that Janessa was in Y Country now; she could buy the things Alana wanted and bring them back home.

It was just that Alana didn't expect Janessa to take offense in her teasing.

"Oh, stop it. Of course, I'll buy them for you." Janessa became frightened whenever Alana acted like a spoiled princess and pestered others nonstop until she got what she wanted.

The woman had a very glib tongue.

"I knew it! You're simply the best!" Alana exclaimed.

She was grateful to have a friend she could joke and banter with anytime, anywhere.

"Well, I should get ready for my outing. Go to sleep already. It's past one in the morning over there, isn't it?" After a bit more chitchat, the women finally ended their video call.

Janessa turned to the window and checked the weather outside before settling for a short skirt and a windbreaker. As for accessories, she chose a pair of huge sunglasses.

Janessa had been strolling down the alleys for a while and stopped in front of a shop window when she noticed something reflected on the glass. A furtive figure was watching her from a conspicuous corner across the street.

She immediately turned around, but the man was already gone.

"Was I seeing things?" she muttered to herself. In the end, she dismissed what she had seen and carried on with her shopping.

She had to go through all seven stores before she finally crossed out everything on the list Alana had given her.

Janessa shuffled to an empty sidewalk to wait for a taxi, and decided to record a video to send to her friend.

Suddenly, someone patted her back, causing her to send the video out.

"Who are you?" Janessa blurted out as she took a step back. Out of nowhere, several tall and burly men appeared and surrounded her.

"Our boss wants to invite you to dinner," one of them answered. Although they looked rough, they seemed oddly polite.

Anyone watching would easily believe that these men were friends of Janessa's.

"I don't know your boss. You must have mistaken me for someone else." She made to take her bags and leave.

The next thing she knew, one of the men picked her up and carried her into a car.

"Help! I don't know these people! I'm being kidnapped!" Janessa screamed at the passersby. Thankfully, someone stopped and looked like they wanted to help her. At this point, however, she had already been deposited into the backseat of the car.

Her abductors didn't seem fazed, either. One of them nodded at the concerned passerby and said, "She has just broken up with her boyfriend. I'm afraid her mental state isn't at its best at the moment. We are her bodyguards and here to take her home so that she gets the care she needs."

The man was so calm, and his explanation was perfectly reasonable. The fact that Janessa was looking frenzied and desperate only lent credence to the man's words. The passersby began to look at her with sympathy. They offered a few well-wishes, then left shortly after.

Once they were gone, the man slid into the car as well and flashed Janessa a grin. His white teeth were exposed, dazzling.

"You can try screaming again, but I'm telling you now that it's useless. You had better be careful from now on, Miss Qiu. Don't be reckless and try to escape. You will only fail." After saying that, the man closed his eyes and leaned back. The engine started, and then they were off.

Janessa had always presumed that kidnappings would involve blindfolds and some form of drugging. Never had she imagined that she would be taken in broad daylight, and what's more, her captors were courteous and eloquent. If she hadn't been there, she would have even doubted this was an actual kidnapping.

"Where are you taking me? Who is this boss of yours?" She hoped to glean even just a fraction of information, if only to comfort herself and muster the strength to face her predicament. But the answer she got only plunged her into despair.

"You'll find out soon enough. Don't worry about it." The man settled in a more comfortable position and closed his eyes again.

It looked like she wouldn't be getting any more out of him.

In that case, Janessa would just have to ponder the matter herself rather than wheedle the information from these men.

She and Rylan had only been in the country for two days, and all they had done was wander around the city. They hadn't made any acquaintances, much less offend someone. What motive did these people have for abducting her?

Even earlier, when she had gone shopping, nothing seemed out of the ordinary. She hadn't caused any trouble to anyone. Why was this happening now?

Try as she might, Janessa couldn't figure it out. Who was their boss, and why was he doing this to her?

The roads began to turn rocky, and the car shook as it moved forward. The motion lulled her to a doze, but just before she fell completely asleep, they finally stopped.

"Get out of the car," the man beside her said. He had been very rude and forceful when he had pushed her into the backseat, but his attitude had changed. This time, he was very respectful toward her.

But this did not console Janessa at all. She was well-aware that she was nothing more than a fish lying on a chopping board, waiting for the cleaver to fall. She bit her lip and did as she had been told.

As the saying went, "Since you have nowhere left to run, you might as well take things easy."

Besides, she also wanted to see what kind of person this boss man was.

The place they had taken her to was quite magnificent. Judging by the exquisite designs and overall architecture of the building, not only did the owner possess a lofty status, but excellent taste as well.

Janessa assumed he must be a prominent figure in the vicinity.

Still, she didn't know such a person in this foreign country.

"Hurry up and go inside," the man said, a little impatiently. "The boss is waiting for you." Janessa had no choice but to quicken her steps and rush into the building.

After stepping through the threshold, she was finally face to face with the person who had supposedly wanted to see her.

This so-called boss was sitting on a massive chair, his back straight as a rod. The moment Janessa came into view, his eyes immediately lit up.

This man...