

Chapter 370 Who Gave It To You

Rylan and Alana sat up front, while Janessa settled in the backseat. On the way to the venue, she couldn't help but feel as though she were watching a movie unfold before her eyes. It was all so surreal.

Soon enough, they were pulling up to the hotel. They stopped just a little ways from the entrance, at which point Janessa spotted a familiar figure.

"Why is she here?" she muttered before she could stop herself.

Whenever Janessa ran into Imani, something had almost always gone wrong. This could also explain why her eyelids had been twitching since earlier. Her intuition must have been trying to warn her.

"Who is it? Is it Gracie?" Alana craned her neck but didn't see anyone she knew.

"No, it's Imani. Every time I see that woman, something bad happens." As she spoke this out loud, Janessa's apprehensions only grew. Her hand went to her belly, her face wrought with worry.

She hoped that Imani wouldn't learn about her pregnancy, at least not until Janessa had figured things out herself. It wouldn't have been a problem if her cousin harbored no ill will, but of course, that wasn't the case at all.

"It's okay," Alana comforted her. "You have me with you. Imani won't have the chance to do anything as long as I'm around."

Rylan remained silent, but his eyes flew to Janessa's face in the rearview mirror. She, however, was purposely avoiding his gaze.

Well, if it was truly impossible for them to be together, the next big thing for him was to be a close friend to her, just like Alana was.

Rylan cleared his throat. "Here we are, then. Come on, let's go." He got out of the car and diligently went around to Janessa's side. He opened the door for her and held out his hand.

Janessa was a little hesitant at first, but she eventually took the hand he offered and gracefully slid out of the vehicle.

As far as the public was concerned, Rylan was one of the most eligible bachelors in the city. In the past, they had also made a habit of covering his attendance to these events, along with his chosen companions. Needless to say, the reporters were prepared this time around as well. The moment they had seen Rylan's car roll into the driveway, they had zeroed in on it with their cameras and had even set up their equipment at the end of the carpet leading to the hotel.

"Mr. Feng! So you're here tonight with Mr. Lu's ex-wife. Is there anything special going on between the two of you?"

"Miss Qiu! You and Mr. Lu have been together since he made a public declaration of his love through a live stream, but you're currently hanging on to another man's arm. Does this mean that the rumors circling Mr. Lu and Miss Mo are true? Have you and Mr. Lu really broken up? If so, was it an amicable split?"

"Miss Qiu, would you mind giving us the details of your recent breakup?"

The reporters were relentless, and most of their questions were all about Janessa.

More specifically, their focus was on her relationship with Rayan.

Rylan chose that moment to interfere. "Hey now, Miss Qiu is my partner for tonight. Why do you keep pestering her about the affairs of other people? Or is it that you all think I am inferior to Mr. Lu?" Although his charming smile never left his face, the seasoned reporters knew that he was issuing them a threat.

Janessa, on the other hand, just stood beside him with a serene expression and ignored the media altogether.

Alana got out of the car then. She made a point of sweeping her gaze on the crowd of nosy people gathered around them before nudging Janessa. "Let's just go inside. These people will never run out of questions, even though they'll probably just repeat the same thing over and over. We'll just tire ourselves out if we entertain them."

She didn't bother lowering her voice, so everyone heard what she said. In her own roundabout way, Alana had just told the media that they were better off asking something that was actually worth answering. Otherwise, they would just be wasting their time.

These reporters were seasoned in the field, and they understood what she meant right away.

They also took note of the fact that Alana had come out of Rylan's car. One might say that she was also considered to be his companion for this party. The press promptly put down their cameras and shut their mouths. They didn't dare to ask anything more.

"All right, let's go."

Janessa tucked her hand into the crook of Rylan's arm, and they walked side by side into the hotel.

Alana was right behind them as they walked past the crowd and stepped into the grand hall.

Professional security guards were stationed around the building, so they could rest assured that no one would rush up and invade their privacy again.

"Those media people are so annoying," Alana huffed and rolled her eyes. "Honestly, can't they think of anything else to ask? Or are they just that stubborn?" She could practically repeat everything they had asked out there.

"They're only trying to do their job," Janessa replied tentatively. She could have answered all their questions and satisfied their curiosity once and for all, but it wasn't the right time for that.

Janessa had decided early on not to discuss anything related to Rayan in public until everything was finally cleared up and settled.

The three of them were milling about, touring around the hall, when there was a sudden commotion at the door.

Someone called out Mr. Lu's name.

Against her better judgment, Janessa instantly turned toward the entrance. She would be relieved if it really was Rayan, but at the same time, she dreaded having to see that woman beside him.

Unfortunately, it was inevitable.

The reporters were even more enthused this time, bombarding the newcomers with more questions. As the crowd parted, Rayan walked in, tall and commanding.

Sure enough, Gracie was right by his side.

Janessa stifled a small sigh. When she looked at Rayan again, their eyes met across the distance.

He ignored the media, too, and ushered Gracie inside.

As for Gracie, she immediately saw Janessa and Rylan, and noticed how their arms were linked. She made no move to point it out to Rayan, though. Surely, he was seeing the same thing she was.

Feeling conscious, Janessa started to pull away from Rylan, but he held fast.

"Let go of me!" she said through gritted teeth, even as she maintained the unbothered look on her face.

"If you really want to know what Rayan thinks of you, then I advise you not to let go of my hand. This is your chance to confirm if you are still important to him or not." The truth of the matter was, Rylan simply didn't want to let go of Janessa. She tried shaking him off again, but in her efforts to be inconspicuous, she naturally couldn't use all her strength.

Rylan tightened his grasp on her, making sure that he wasn't using so much force as to hurt her.

"You..." He had no idea what Rayan would make of this situation, but Janessa was his partner tonight. Rylan would be damned if he just let her go before the party even started.

"I'm doing this for your own good. You see how close those two are, don't you? Do you believe what you see? Or do you think he's just put on a show? Don't you want to find out the truth?"

Janessa had to admit that he had a point. In the end, she stopped her struggling and squared her shoulders.

Rayan and Gracie walked up to them then. "Well, isn't this Miss Qiu?" Gracie smirked. "What a surprise. You never used to come to this kind of parties before."

"And? What is your point?" Janessa said with disdain, her eyebrows raised. She could do whatever the hell she wanted without others clocking in her activities.

"You're really quite capricious, aren't you, Miss Qiu? Even at a fancy event like this one."

Janessa knew what Gracie was trying to imply, but she couldn't be bothered to respond.

"Why are you wearing this dress? Who gave it to you?"