

Chapter 20 You Jinxed Them

Desmond took one look at Elyse and immediately erupted in laughter. "How did you manage to find such a stunning wife? Did you hire her?"

He quickly shifted topics. "Has Joanna Foster returned yet? Are you planning to marry her once she's back? It's understandable that she disappeared on your wedding day, especially since you're cripple now. No girl would willingly marry you."

His voice was so loud that everyone around could clearly hear him. As some recognized Jayden, their expressions turned.

Jayden faced the crowd's sneering looks with composure. "I've heard that your son's bride used to be a bargirl. Is that true? And she's knocked up?"

Instantly, Desmond's face fell. He stared at Jayden, hatred burning in his eyes, as if he wanted to tear him apart.

"Your family holds significant power in town. Why then did Xander marry a bargirl? Are none of the ladies from other influential families interested in him?"

Jayden, grinning, lifted his champagne glass. "It must be tough being his father, given how useless your son is. He's going to marry her because he knocked her up."

Elyse, completely taken aback, asked, "Really? It's just because they're expecting a baby?"

Observing the changing expressions on Desmond's face, Jayden, still smiling, remarked, "Perhaps it's merely a rumor."

"It's definitely a rumor!" With a glare at Jayden, Desmond grabbed his glass and stormed away.

Elyse expressed her concern with a worried tone. "He seems so narrow-

minded. Do you think he'll cause trouble for us?"

"Don't worry. He's not interested in keeping tabs on me today," Jayden reassured her. "Xander is quite the playboy. The bride comes from a humble background. They rushed the wedding because she is pregnant with his child," he explained.

Elyse nodded, understanding the situation better. It was clear now why Desmond was too distracted to bother with her and Jayden. He was probably worried that his son would embarrass himself at the wedding and become the talk of town once more.

At the wedding venue, Jayden received mixed reactions; while many looked down on him, there were still guests who approached him warmly.

Elyse had the opportunity to meet numerous people alongside him.

Fifteen minutes later, the ceremony started.

Elyse and Jayden found themselves at the seats with a prime view. Xander's bride entered, wearing her wedding dress with grace. They watched her closely. She carried herself well, yet some of her gestures betrayed a lack of confidence, and to some, she might have seemed out of place.

Xander stood on the stage looking less like a groom and more like a man filled with resentment towards the bride.

"It seems he's not eager to marry her," Elyse whispered to Jayden.

Jayden raised an eyebrow. "He's a well-known playboy who's not ready to settle down. Of course, he's reluctant to marry."

It appeared his family was using the marriage as a way to curb his reckless behavior.

The wedding progressed under a tense atmosphere, reaching the point where vows were exchanged and rings were given.

As Elyse watched the scene unfold, her mind wandered unexpectedly back to her own wedding—the one where Theo had fled. It felt like revisiting a past life.

She watched the bride and groom exchanging vows and muttered to herself, "Hope nothing will go wrong when they exchange the rings?"

No sooner had she spoken than a voice from among the guests exclaimed, "Wait!"

All eyes turned to the source of the interruption.

A woman in a grey sports suit, holding a baby and wearing a complex expression, stood up. "I can't agree to this marriage because I have given birth to a son of the groom! I should be his wife!"

The revelation sent shockwaves through the crowd. Everyone knew Xander's reputation with women, but nobody anticipated that another woman he had impregnated would appear, especially since the current wedding was arranged under similar circumstances.

"Elyse, you jinxed them. Your words actually came true. You seem to really despise the Brooks family. I'm glad to see that as your husband," Jayden commented with a teasing grin.

Elyse's mouth fell open. She had only spoken in jest and never truly expected her prediction to manifest.

"Damn it! You are such a disgrace!" No longer in the mood to provoke Jayden, Desmond was now seething with anger, wishing he could punish his irresponsible son.

"Dad! I honestly didn't know," Xander pleaded, covering his face in distress. "I thought it was just a one-time thing without protection!" His excuse, however, sounded absurd.

With the wedding now in disarray and beyond salvage, it was clear the ceremony couldn't continue.

"Jayden, should we head back?" Elyse suggested, noting the chaos unfolding. She then noticed the woman with the baby in her arms nodded at Jayden.

