

Bring Your A Game, Mr Chapter 481- 490 Read online

Chapter 481 What Can I Do? I Like You a Lot

“Despicable!” Elise scolded.

At once, Kenneth was frozen for a few moments before he turned back to face her.

“Miss Sinclair, I just helped you out, and now you’re throwing me under the bus. Isn’t that unethical?” he said with a troubled look.

“I didn’t ask you to.” Her facial expression was dark.

It was the truth. She would have dealt with the man herself, but Kenneth insisted on butting in.

After a faint pause, she threw the handkerchief that she was holding onto Kenneth. “Take your dirty handkerchief away! If you dare touch me again, I will take your life!”

“Well, that’s feisty of you. But what can I do? I like you a lot when you act like this,” as he said that, he had a smug expression on while he leaned closer to her.

Immediately, she moved her foot from the face of the man on the floor before aiming for Kenneth’s lower body.

Before the damaging kick had the chance to land, he grabbed hold of her leg with both his hands.

“Haha…” With a chuckle, he said with his brow raised, “Miss Sinclair, if you had really landed that kick, you will regret it for the next half of your life.”

“Really…” After squinting her eyes, she made a jump from the support provided by his hand that was holding onto her legs before making a turn mid-air, landing a kick on his shoulder.

At once, he loosened his grip before staggering two steps back. Holding onto the spot where he got kicked, he said in disbelief, “For real?”

“Of course.” Elise regained her composure before she said threateningly, “Keep your dirty thoughts to yourself. Next time, you won’t have the chance to avoid it.”

After saying what she wanted to say, she left without looking back.

Seeing that, Kenneth was left there, unsure whether to laugh or weep.

As he had a very ferocious fiancée, what could he do?

He was the one who picked her, so he had to love her even through the pain!

It had been over an hour since she got back to her room when she heard the door of the room opposite being opened.

She had the thought of sending a text to confirm whether it was Alexander, but she figured that it was faster to open the door and check it herself as she didn't want to wait any longer.

Just as the door opened, she was met with the closure of the door of his room.

At that moment, she managed to catch a glimpse of his face, but it wasn't likewise.

Though it was just a little peek, she could see his fatigue, so she didn't call after him.

Returning back to the room, she picked up her phone to send him some messages.

'Since you've worked so hard for my betrothal gifts, I will excuse you from greeting me tonight. Hehe.'

'Good work today. Rest early after taking a hot shower.'

'Goodnight.'

After sending the texts, she went to sleep in peace.

No matter how many unpredicted things happened in the day, she'd feel safe as long as Alexander was by her side.

That was why when both of them opened their doors at the same time the next morning, she couldn't suppress her urge to hug him as she missed him.

"Do you know? If you don't come back earlier again, I may get snatched away by someone." Her tone was soft and it was obvious that she had just woken up not long ago.

As he took in her familiar scent, he quickly sobered up. Without thinking twice, he put his arm around her thin waist before asking, "So, were you seduced by the person who wanted to snatch you away?"

"Of course not." She said in a playful tone, "But I almost made him lose his ability to reproduce."

As she said that, she couldn't stifle her laugh.

Hearing that, he frowned, not knowing whether it was good or bad news.

She didn't feel anything for him, showing that she didn't have a liking for him.

It made him doubt his level of attractiveness. Recalling the kick that he took from her, he felt a little embarrassed.

Meanwhile, she was sensitive enough to sense that his emotions were a little off. Hence, she leaned closer before saying, "I have self-control, but you don't seem to be happy about it. Looks like I should let others have some chance when incidents like that happen again."

"Don't you dare!" At once, he tightened his grip before pecking her lips.

At this moment, an image of Kenneth flashed in her mind for a fleeting second.

I must be crazy, she thought. Then, she kissed Alexander back until their breaths were getting a little ragged before letting go of each other.

With their foreheads against each other, they kept each other in their embrace. The scene looked exactly like a couple who had just gotten married.

"Uh..." At this moment, Danny suddenly made an appearance. Unfortunately for him, it wasn't the scene he was expecting. "Did I come at a bad time?"

It was only then did Alexander let Elise go before turning to look at Danny. "What is it?"

"Someone is here for Elise," Danny replied.

"Who is it?" she asked as it was still quite early in the morning.

"It's Mr. Shaw from the event yesterday. He said that he's here to give you an answer," Danny told Elise.

"That was quick," she commented in a cheeky manner.

"Go ahead," Alexander said. "I'll wait for you in the restaurant."

"Alright, I'll head there in a moment."

After she said that, she followed Danny to see Tom downstairs.

In the hall of the hotel, Tom was sitting on the couch in an uneasy manner. Upon seeing Elise, he stood up to greet her, "Miss Sinclair."

"Take a seat, Mr. Shaw. Don't be so courteous with me. I'm not used to it," Elise said.

The two sat opposite each other while Danny went to wait for her at the side.

“You’ve decided?” The contract of trading shares that was placed on the table was hard to miss.

Hearing that, Tom clenched his jaw before replying, “It’s been ten years since I took over this shop. It was handed to me even before I graduated! I poured my youth and passion into it. It’s already a part of me, so I can’t bear to have it ruined in my hands. Miss Sinclair, please save Shaw’s Jewelry Co.!”

As Elise heard that, a smile crept up her lips. “You think that I have the ability to save a century-old establishment?”

“I believe in you!” His gaze at her was firm as he said that.

Since the moment he saw her yesterday, he had already decided to put his faith in her.

Though she was petite, the aura she had was immense. It made people want to trust and obey her.

Obviously, he had to have faith in a person like her!

Therefore, he decided to transfer ownership over to her by transferring all of his shares to Elise.

After taking a glance, she did not pick up the pen.

She just couldn’t sign it.

Her identity was a little complicated. If people found out that Shaw’s Jewelry Co. was her business, Faye would definitely work with her connections in Landred City to intervene.

“Is there any issue, Miss Sinclair?” he asked as he sensed that she was thinking of something.

At this moment, she pushed the contract back to him. “I can’t show my face. I can only be involved in the backend.”

As someone who knew about rules in the business field well, Tom knew that there were a lot of businesses that had a different boss from the person in charge shown to the public.

Nodding his head, he bravely made a joke. “Are you trying to manage from behind the scenes like the empress dowager?”

Hearing that, she mimicked his smile. "That's right. I'll be the mastermind behind the scene instead. Mr. Shaw, I'll provide the ideas while you execute them. We will share our earnings fifty-fifty. What do you think?"

"With your assurance, I will do my best," Tom easily agreed to all her requests.

When she was sending him out, he suddenly spoke up again, "Some stones imported from overseas just arrived in Dukethorn. I've already received the invitation. Would you like to come along?"

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Chapter 482 Getting Even

"I'll go," Elise answered succinctly. "When we come back later, let's change the name of Shaw's Jewelry Co."

"Change it to what?" Tom was curious.

"Alexis." At the thought of Alexander, a smile appeared on Elise's face.

"Ah... Lexis?" As he did not hear Elise clearly, Tom pondered on that thought and decided that Lexis was a good fit in the end. "Alright, I'll get someone to design the logo immediately."

"It's not urgent," she said as she briefly pursed her lips. She wanted this to be a surprise for Alexander, so she wanted to design the logo herself.

However, Tom thought that she was just being courteous with him. Therefore, right after the meeting, he went to look for a designer that he was familiar with to design the brand logo.

After Tom left, Elise went directly to the restaurant.

When she got there, Alexander had already ordered breakfast for her.

Just as she sat down, he passed her a cup of milk that he had been holding onto.

"Here, drink this cup of milk first."

"Thank you."

Taking the drink over, she took a sip as she thought, Wow. The milk is still warm.

"Did it go smoothly?" Alexander asked casually.

“Nothing out of the ordinary,” Elise replied in a good mood. She then recalled what Tom said, so she asked, “I may have to visit Dukethorn in two days. Do you want to tag along?”

Hearing that, he showed a troubled face. “Can it be postponed by two days? I can’t leave yet.”

“Oh, it’s fine. You can focus on your work while I do mine,” she said understandingly.

Though she did not want to be separated from him, she knew that distance was inevitable no matter how close the person was to her.

Having a career of their own would help build a long-lasting relationship. Therefore, she decided to try and get used to being away from him in short intervals during this long-term relationship.

Not to mention, she wasn’t a well-pampered and spoiled young lady.

After some thoughts, Alexander said, “Have Clement and the others follow along.”

“There is no need for that. I’m going there for business, not to travel,” she replied.

“When you’re out, you should have bodyguards by your side. They can handle conflicts that require fighting.” He looked at her with a concerned expression.

She seemed to have heard this sentence from somewhere. Nevertheless, she couldn’t help but retort, “Are you expecting them to protect me? You don’t even know who’s the one protecting the other.”

Stumped for a moment, he felt helpless, but he still insisted. “I know that you’re perfectly capable of fighting, but Dukethorn is a messy city. You can’t fight everyone on your own. It’s better to have a few people by your side.”

Knowing that she would not be able to win the argument, she no longer rejected. However, her gaze suddenly turned cold and murderous.

Noticing that, Alexander was worried that her hostility was toward Kenneth, so he asked, feeling a little guilty. “Is there something bothering you?”

“No.” With her eyes squinted, she said in a dangerous tone, “I suddenly remembered that I have to get even with Faye.”

Upon hearing that, he was secretly relieved. He then humored, “Sounds like Faye’s going to get unlucky.”

Hearing that, Elise simply smiled without replying.

Since Faye intended to kill her and get the jadeite, Elise was going to let her get a taste of her own medicine. As for the killing part... Elise didn't have such plans yet, so she'll spare Faye her life.

Faye. Oh, Faye. You better stay alive. When my brother wakes up, he'll definitely go to you personally to get his revenge.

After finishing her breakfast, she made a phone call.

The person on the other end picked up quickly. "So, Miss Elise still remembers this unimportant character. Is the sun rising from the west today?"

"Cut it out." Elise then said in a serious tone, "I'm here to give you a job."

"No thanks. I've already changed for the better. I no longer do anything bad." The opposite end then added, "My mother's health isn't the best. I want to be a good person. Hopefully, God will bless her then."

"Oh? Didn't you want to be Robin Hood? Are you not interested in stealing from the rich for the poor?" Elise questioned.

At this moment, the other side fell silent. It seemed that he was starting to get swayed.

She then proceeded to persuade him, "Saving someone's life is worth more than doing good deeds. Isn't that a fast track to gain God's blessings?"

"Then, you have to ensure the opponent is a bad person," the person on the phone said as if he was giving his all.

"You have my word," Elise said in a serious manner. "I don't want to hide it from you either. This person tried to kill my family several times. I have to teach them a lesson. Hence, you can see it as my personal matter. I won't force you to help me."

"What? Kill Miss Elise's family! How dare this person?! You should've said that earlier! I won't neglect this matter. Why don't I beat that person up?" the person said with righteous indignation.

As Elise heard that, it made her feel touched yet helpless. "There's no need for that. I'm not so violent. All you have to do is..."

...

On that night, Faye was tossing and turning in her bed as she was unable to fall asleep.

Thinking that Elise was getting all the attention these past few days, she was so mad that her chest felt painful.

Making another turn, she suddenly noticed that there were some faint noises outside.

“Who’s there?” Using her arm as support, she lifted her upper body up as she looked toward the living room.

Just as she said that, all the lights in the house were suddenly dimmed.

“Who’s there?!” Her alerted voice sounded threatening. Immediately, she picked up the phone that was on the headboard wardrobe.

Immediately, she could feel as if someone had barged in.

After dialing the number of the hotel lobby, she was prepared to call for help.

At this moment, the person outside suddenly spoke up.

“Miss Anderson, I’ve accomplished the task.”

After that, the man turned on a flashlight to shed light on his surroundings.

He was standing far away by a storage shelf and had his hand placed on a silver safe. “The blood jadeite is right here. Unfortunately, I don’t have the passcode, and I’m afraid that I’ll damage the jadeite inside if I open it by force. That’s why I can only bring the whole safe over to you.”

“What about Elise Sinclair?” Faye didn’t seem to be suspicious at all.

“That pretty lady? She’s probably in the emergency room now. I could’ve gotten rid of her, but the Griffith guy showed up,” the man said as if it was a pity.

Hearing that Elise was hurt, Faye smiled triumphantly. “Good job. You can leave the thing here. I’ll transfer you the money tomorrow.”

“That won’t do, Miss Anderson. I only accept cash or checks.” The man touched the handle of the safe as he said in a suggestive manner, “Pardon my straightforwardness, Miss Anderson, but the thing in the safe must be worth more than my pay. If I’m not getting the money tonight, I will take the jadeite with me and make a deal with someone else.”

“No!” Faye said quickly, but she realized that she was exposing herself. Hence, she quickly changed her tone before coming up with an excuse. “You’re wrong. The item inside isn’t worth much. Aside from the Andersons, it’s just a useless piece of stone to others. You won’t get any money if you bring it away.”

After that, she got out of bed before opening her own safe using the light from her phone screen.

Inside the safe, there were a few hundreds of thousands inside along with some certifications and important documents. Even the jade that she had gotten today from the auction was inside it.

Taking out 50,000 in cash and a checkbook, she immediately locked the safe back.

After writing down the amount agreed on the check, she walked out before giving the man both the cash and the check.

“You can cash out the check any time you want. This 50,000 is a bonus.”

Pressing his cap lower, he took the check and cash before saying, “Well, thank you, Miss Anderson.”

After that, he turned off the light before running out.

After locking the stolen safe into her own, she went to sleep in peace.

...

The next day.

“Ah!”

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Chapter 483 Tables Turned

Faye screamed so loud that it sounded through the entire building.

At 9 in the morning, police officers flooded in and out of the bungalow.

At that moment, one of them was recording her testimony. “Miss Anderson, are you sure that you’re the only person who knows the passcode of the safe?”

“Yes.” While swinging her wrists, Faye replied irritably, “It’s the third time you’ve asked me that same question. How many times do you expect me to repeat myself?! I told you that the jadeite stone I bought using 10 million was kept in the safe. It was still there when I was up last night. When I looked into the safe this morning after waking up, the jadeite was already gone. Why are you all wasting your time by asking me so many questions instead of catching the thief?! Is this how you spend the people’s tax money?”

“Apologies, Miss Anderson. We’re only doing this to hopefully solve the case as soon as possible. That’s why we have to keep looking into details. Please cooperate with us!” The one who recorded her testimony was a newbie, so his way of speaking didn’t sound authoritative enough.

Knowing that he was just a rash fellow, she simply ignored his words before calling out, “Who is the person in charge?! Is there no one who calls the shots here?!”

Just as she said that, a man wearing plain clothes came over from the direction where the safe was located.

“Miss Anderson,” the man greeted her expressionlessly.

“Are you their superior?” Faye glanced at the man with a dissatisfied look before ordering him, “I want you to send people to search every inch of this bungalow and its surroundings. Find my jadeite stone back, or I will make a complaint about your delay and negligence at work. You will have to be responsible for my loss!”

“Pardon my straightforwardness, Miss Anderson. Your room and its surrounding showed no signs of intrusion at all. The safe was even opened using the passcode...” The man trailed off as a troubled look was formed on his face.

“What do you mean? Are you suspecting that I stole it myself?!” Faye said angrily. “I don’t think you’ve grasped this situation yet—I’m the daughter of the Anderson Family. Do you think I’ll steal from my own family?!”

The man lowered his gaze before saying in an indirect manner, “I don’t mean it that way. I just wanted to ask if there’s a chance that you left the jadeite stone somewhere else and forgot about it?”

Hearing that, she crossed her arms before replying in a hostile tone, “Do I look like I have dementia?”

The man didn’t want to argue with her either. So, he simply shot his colleague a look as a sign for the person to bring over the safe.

“Miss Anderson, may I ask what’s inside?” the man questioned.

“My prized possession, of course.” The raise of her voice was a little awkward. “I asked you to come and find my jadeite stone, not to question me. Why are you trying to touch my things?!”

The man acted like he didn’t hear her complaints and took the safe into his hands. “Miss Anderson, what is the passcode?”

“I don’t know.” She turned away in anger. She really didn’t want to talk to him anymore.

“Since you refuse to cooperate, we’ll just try ourselves.” After he said that, he put the safe onto the table before attempting to crack it.

Frankly, she wasn't worried that they might open the safe and see Elise's stone. After all, they didn't know the passcode, and the police had no right to damage a citizen's property.

What she was more worried about was which string to pull to find her jadeite stone back.

Suddenly, the sound of the safe unlocking could be heard.

Turning over, she could see that the safe had already been cracked.

At this moment, the man scanned through the items in the safe before turning to look at Faye. After that, he turned the opening of the safe to face her.

"Miss Anderson, take a look. Is this your jadeite stone?"

At once, she was so shocked that she put her hands over her mouth which was hung open.

How is that possible? The safe was supposed to be containing Elise's stone. However, she was now seeing the jadeite stone that she bought!

She couldn't say that it wasn't—she didn't have the guts to.

Looking at her hesitant look, the police officer made a decision.

With a dark expression, he stood up before chastising Faye. "Since your item has been found, we will leave now. Hopefully, you will check things through next time. Don't waste police resources time just like that! Landred City isn't like Athesea. We would always plan before doing things. We don't have the time to fool around with you, Miss Anderson! We're done here. Head out, boys!"

After saying that, he didn't wait for a reply from her before leaving with the other officers.

On the other hand, Faye was so furious that she clenched her teeth.

This fellow was obviously prejudiced toward her as she came from Athesea. Why was he so arrogant? Landred would be just a third-liner city if it wasn't because of Kenneth. Did he think that he could look down on outsiders because of that?"

After half a day, she finally calmed down. It was only then did she turn around to look at her stone.

She was sure that she never opened the safe, so how did it get inside?

Did she do that while she was sleep-walking?

If that was the case, where did Elise's jadeite go?

At that thought, she suspiciously picked up a jadeite stone to check if there were any problems with it.

Just as she was about to lift it up, cracks suddenly covered the entire stone, and it shattered into pieces of various sizes the next second before falling into the safe. Outside the cracks, there were still hints of green from the jadeite. The truth was... they were all rocks!

Almost immediately, she phoned the male police officer from earlier.

"What is it now?" the officer said impatiently.

"My jadeite stone has shattered into pieces. That jadeite earlier was not a jadeite at all—not even a gram of it. Someone stole my jadeite away for real!" Faye explained anxiously.

"Alright, Miss Anderson, cut it out. Everyone in Landred City knows the rules of stone gambling. After buying the stone, it's your own luck if you get a jadeite or not. If there isn't any inside, it's your fate. Why do you keep troubling us? Are you such a sore loser? Don't call over again or I'll sue you for obstruction of law!"

"But—" Before Faye could finish her sentence, the call ended.

The male officer didn't even give her a chance to say anything and ended the call.

With her eyes trained on the page of the phone call records, she was so angry that she flung the phone away. "A bunch of *ss!"

After letting off some steam, she supported herself against the table before looking at the shattered stones in the safe. It was only then that a sudden realization fell on her.

The safe was not locked at all, and the guy from last night was not here to deliver Elise's stone. He was here to get the passcode when she opened her safe to get the money.

"D*mn it! It must be Elise Sinclair!"

At this moment, she had her teeth gritted and her fists clenched tightly.

Not only did her plan backfire—she even lost what she originally had and more!

B*tch, I will end you sooner or later!

Meanwhile, Elise, who was cursed, sneezed right after she got off the plane.

“Who’s talking behind my back?” As she was rubbing her nose, her phone suddenly rang, so she picked it up and placed the phone by her ear.

“Boss, it’s done. The jadeite stone and 50,000 in cash are all here. When should I send it over to you?”

“There is no need for that.” Elise continued, “Just sell it off. You can draw a part of it and donate the rest to welfare centers.”

“I don’t need to be paid when I’m lending you a helping hand. Oh, and, the eavesdropping device that I left in the woman’s house has recorded a conversation where the police thought of her as a dumb person. Should I send it to you so you can have a good laugh?”

“Sure. This number connects to your WhatsApp, right? I’ll add you as a contact so you can send it to me.”

“Alright.”

After hanging up the phone, both of them continued their conversation on WhatsApp.

After that, the recording was sent over in no time, and there was even a sticker showing a sneaky expression.

Seeing that, Elise replied to him with a funny smile as she hadn’t really listened to the recording, but she changed the name of his contact to ‘Earthbender.’

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Chapter 484 Can’t You Be More Gentle?

After leaving the airport, Elise could clearly feel the intense exuberance in the city life that was specific to Dukethorn.

The roads of Dukethorn were long and winding, but this didn’t seem to deter the street cart operators from operating their stalls by the roadside. The items sold were mainly some arts and crafts. The local people could clearly be identified due to their unique attire, which was significantly different from the visitors. Hence, it was fairly easy to differentiate between the locals and the visitors.

There were plenty of people like Elise, who were clearly dressed like visitors, and most of them were quite likely here for the gem auction event.

The people of Landred City enjoyed auctioning for gems, but the city was not where gem auction had originated. It was only in Dukethorn one could see gem auctioning events all over the place. Some of the street cart operators also held small-scale gem

auction events and it was just like opening a blind box. It cost one hundred for each round, and you could go on endlessly.

Of course, most of the gems obtained were worthless jade pieces and it was all for the fun of it.

“Stop the cart.” Just then, Elise suddenly stopped their trishaw cart operator and leaped off the cart. “Why don’t you bring the luggage to the hotel first? I’ll have a browse around the place.”

“Stay safe, Miss Anderson,” Tom mentioned to Elise.

“My last name is Sinclair,” Elise responded.

“Aren’t you the daughter of the Anderson Family? Anyway, Miss Sinclair, Dukethorn is not a safe place, so be alert and come back early.” Tom had complete trust in Elise so he didn’t question her any further. After giving her some advice, he then told the driver to continue heading to their destination.

Walking off, Elise entered the bustling marketplace. She planned to find some interesting little trinkets to bring back for Alexander. She browsed around but she didn’t find anything that seemed appealing.

“Stop right there! Catch that thief!”

Suddenly, a screaming plea could be heard from behind her, and the voice became increasingly louder.

Elise paused in her tracks and turned around to look. Suddenly, she saw that the previously crowded street now had a slight path forcefully pushed through by someone, and there was a man stumbling right in her direction with a designer bag held in his hands. He pushed aside the innocent bystanders as he rushed in her direction.

Meanwhile, those who wanted to avoid trouble tacitly moved to the side. However, Elise remained standing in her original position, having no intentions of shying away at all.

“Step aside, you b*tch!”

The man warned her from afar but after noticing that she didn’t respond at all, he made up his mind and increased his speed while clutching tightly to the bag, intending to force his way through.

The man was nearly six-foot-tall and was quite well-built. He increased his speed, and it was quite likely that he could easily send a person hurtling into the air.

The bystanders had already started to say a silent prayer for Elise.

Just then, as soon as the man approached Elise, she lifted her feet and kicked him into the air. With a loud moan, he landed with a thud onto the ground. He even skidded quite a few meters before coming to a stop.

It took a while before he came back to his senses. He struggled to get up from the ground, but a silver needle suddenly came toward him and hit him directly in his neck. Half of his body was frozen in place and he could only use the other half to support himself as he wriggled on the ground.

The woman, whose bag had been snatched, finally caught up with the guy and the first thing that she did was to pick up her bag that was on the ground.

After she had examined the contents of the bag and made sure that everything was in place, she finally came to her senses and looked in Elise's direction. Just then, there was a flash of surprise in her eyes.

In fact, Elise recognized the woman. She was the capable woman who was always by Kenneth's side.

"Thanks for your help, Miss Elise. The items inside are very important to me."

Elise didn't respond to her words. Melody was with Kenneth, so something that was important to her was definitely also related to him.

Indeed, soon after that, Kenneth's voice rang out even before he appeared on the scene.

"Have you recovered the item?"

As soon as his words rang out, he pushed through from the crowd and walked toward them. Kenneth's eyes instantly met Elise's and the both of them exchanged looks.

As soon as Elise noticed the teasing expression in his eyes, she hardened her gaze.

"Miss Sinclair, this is such a coincidence." Kenneth remained in his position and stared unblinkingly at Elise.

There was an intense look of disgust in Elise's eyes as she nonchalantly responded, "Your partner's bag was just snatched by someone. You didn't even bother to show her any concern, yet you're blatantly going after another woman right now. Do you think that's appropriate?"

"Why would it be inappropriate?" Kenneth smiled. "You helped Melody recover her items, so I definitely have to thank you for that on her behalf."

"Mr. Bailey, you have such a glib tongue." Elise murmured with a mocking look.

He must be the only person on earth who can give such a unique and righteous response even though he's actually just being a flirt.

Just then, Elise glanced at Melody, and she couldn't help but find it a shame. The latter looked very capable and independent, so why did she have such bad taste in men?

Although Kenneth was fairly good-looking, looks were not everything. Elise wondered, Why can't she tell that the guy next to her is a flirt? Maybe it's his good looks paired with his glib tongue that caused her to lose her senses. That must be the reason! I must make her realize it so that she can leave him.

"If I'm not mistaken, you must be Miss Melody, right?" Elise questioned.

"Yes, I am." Melody's face remained impassive as she nodded her head.

"You should keep a closer eye on your man to prevent him from flirting with everyone. It's fine if he's not great at kissing, but it's embarrassing that he attempted to force himself on someone else despite being so lousy in his technique. It would seem that the guy you're with isn't able to perform."

Elise emphasized the word 'perform' and there was a look of defiance in her eyes.

Meanwhile, Melody was quite smart and she instantly turned to interrogate Kenneth, "Did you force yourself on Miss Sinclair?"

Kenneth shrugged in response. "Yeah, I couldn't help myself. She was too enchanting."

As soon as Elise thought of the scene where Kenneth was about to be dumped, she looked as if her evil plan had come to fruition, the smug smile on her face clearly indicating her pleasure.

However, as soon as her lips curved into a smile, she heard Melody mention with a slightly resigned note, "Can't you be more gentle?"

And so, Elise was stunned speechless.

Kenneth only commented, "I'll try next time."

"I hope you manage to," Melody calmly responded, and then she remained silent after that.

What the heck? Next time? Be more gentle? Is that even the main point here?!

"Is that all you have to say?" Elise stared at Melody with a confused expression.

Meanwhile, the latter was quite calm, and she replied indifferently, "I'm sorry, Miss Sinclair. I have no control over him." It's normal for one to occasionally grumble about the boss but it would be near impossible to stick my nose into his matters!

From Elise's point of view, she found that this woman currently standing in front of her was hopeless. Melody chose to turn a blind eye to her man's flirtish behavior and she even accepted it as the norm. It's quite sad for a woman to end up living in such a sorry state. Elise realized that no one could save someone like that. With a sigh, she silently cursed all of the despicable men on earth who behaved so badly toward their partners.

Suddenly, Kenneth interrupted her thoughts as he said sneakily, "Miss Sinclair, I was in a rush back then, so the experience you received was mediocre. How about we find another spot and continue the experiment?"

Upon hearing that, Elise plastered a fake smile on her face. "If you come at me again, then it wouldn't be an experiment because I will slaughter you!" As she said that, she glanced at Melody and warned exasperatedly, "If you don't want me to slaughter him, then you'd better keep a close eye on him!" With that, Elise spun on her heel and disappeared into the crowd.

Meanwhile, Kenneth continued to look in the direction that Elise had walked off. His expression was smitten and he looked just like a love-struck puppy.

As for Melody, she could no longer stand it so she shook her head. "How long are you going to keep this up? Aren't you afraid that she will really hate you?"

"No, she won't." Kenneth lowered his eyes and his gaze looked distant but calm. "Things will be fine once she stops being so mindful of her image in front of me. It won't take too long."

"That was too deep and I didn't understand a word you said."

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Chapter 485 Kicking My Woman Out?

"Trust me, Melody. It's quite normal to not understand." Kenneth teased matter-of-factly.

Meanwhile, Melody was quite used to his behavior, so she calmly turned her back to him and walked off.

Kenneth took another look in the direction that Elise had walked off in before he finally moved and caught up to Melody.

Before the official start of the gem auction event, the founding families of Dukethorn organized a party under the pretext of welcoming guests from all over the country. In

actual fact, it was just an opportunity provided for each different force to find out in advance about their opponents' actual capabilities.

Naturally, Elise was invited as well.

However, she wasn't interested in building up her contacts, nor did she have any interest in probing for her opponents' limits. She was mainly there to have some fun.

There were plenty of different gemstones usually available at the gem auction event, but the top-grade stones were usually monopolized by the founding families of Dukethorn. The middle-grade ones would then end up in the hands of the Dukethorn locals, while the lower graded ones were the ones that became available elsewhere.

It wasn't that the Dukethorn local players intentionally ganged up against the outsiders, but it was purely because this was an industry that was dependent on one's abilities. Therefore, the locals had relied on this as their livelihood since generations ago, so they usually had an eye for picking out the best gemstones. Naturally, this was something that the outsiders couldn't quite compare against.

The next night, Elise brought Tom along with her to attend the dinner.

The party was quite crowded, so no one noticed them as they walked into the hall.

Truth was, the Dukethorn locals had an inborn sense of superiority and they looked down on the outsiders.

However, as soon as Kenneth and Melody appeared at the party, it caused a slight commotion.

"Mr. Bailey, thanks for gracing us with your presence. This year's gem auction event is definitely going to be much more exclusive with you being here, and it's great that you and Miss Melody are as sweet together as always." Someone walked up to the duo and flatteringly fawned over them.

However, Kenneth's face was impassive and he calmly pursed his lips and said, "Melody's my most capable assistant, that's all. I hope you guys can spare some thought for her and watch your words. After all, this could affect her future prospects."

"Oh—I understand. We've spoken too much. Come, Mr. Bailey; let's head inside."

The group of men placed a hand on each other's shoulders and they walked toward the corner after exchanging a few short sentences.

Meanwhile, Melody followed Kenneth without any complaints, not looking the least bit upset.

Just then, Elise shook her head and sighed. Poor woman! Even her thoughts are under his control. That darned man doesn't even dare to acknowledge your identity in public, so why are you still with him?!

"Miss Anderson, what's wrong?" Tom asked with a puzzled look.

Just then, Elise took a deep breath before turning around to slap him on the back of his head. "My last name is Sinclair! It's Sinclair, okay? Why are you so dumb?!"

Tom rubbed at the spot she had hit him and looked at her with a baffled expression. "Okay, Miss An—Sinclair!"

At that point, Elise finally nodded approvingly and heaved a sigh of relief. Subsequently, she headed over to a corner with the least people. "Let's go over there to get some fresh air."

She didn't want to increase her chances of bumping into Kenneth.

There weren't that many people in that corner, but there were a few people in groups of twos and threes. Elise didn't recognize any of them, so she leaned against the stone pillar and had a drink as she scrutinized the passersby with a glazed look in her almond-shaped eyes.

Just then, a few middle-aged females started walking in her direction, their heads bowed deep in conversation with each other.

"This year's auction seems to be at a larger scale than the previous years, right? The number of people in attendance is so many that we can't even fit in one hall.

"Well, it's those outsiders from Athesea and Landred City. Even the largest jewelry company in the country has assigned some people to attend the auction. All of the hotels in town are fully booked!"

"It looks like they're all quite well-prepared and are ready to take away the top-grade gemstones."

"They won't be able to succeed! We've got plenty of skillful players in Dukethorn, and even a child would be more knowledgeable than any of those outsiders. It would be wishful thinking for them to win the top-grade gemstones from us."

"Exactly! They're just a bunch of clueless people who are here to cheer for the people of Dukethorn."

The women went back and forth as they discussed the topic, but each word they uttered was full of disdain and discriminated against the outsiders. They laughed out loud from time to time too.

At that point, Elise was annoyed by their loud laughter and she mockingly yelled, "Did you say that the outsiders are just here to cheer you on?!"

"Who are you?" one of the women questioned.

"We were just chit-chatting among ourselves, so you'd better keep your nose out of it." One of the plump women seemed to have an inbred sense of superiority and she warned Elise with a haughty expression.

Meanwhile, Elise walked toward her with a cold expression. "The blood that courses through your vein originates from Cittadel too. Neither of us is inferior to the other."

At that point, the woman was clearly displeased.

Such gatherings tended to be quite boring, so her impolite interrogation instantly attracted the attention of the neighboring guests. The group of women was much more upset than ever.

"How does that concern you anyway?! I didn't target anyone! Why are you so arrogant anyway?!"

"That's right. Who do you think you are to come here and lose your temper? Do you think that this is somewhere you can show your temper?!"

"You really lack manners!"

Just then, Elise finally saw for herself how a person at fault could start slinging accusations.

"If it weren't for you guys behaving so high and mighty and spouting nonsense here by discriminating against the outsiders, I wouldn't have bothered to speak up!"

Upon hearing that, the attendees, who were unsure about the situation prior to this, directed unpleasant looks at the group of middle-aged females.

Those who were able to attend the gem auction event mostly came from families with strong backgrounds, so none of them had ever been subjected to such discrimination.

At that point, the women bit hard on their lips and their faces flushed red out of anger.

"Stop your nonsense! We didn't say any of those words!"

"Yeah! You guys are visitors, so of course we would welcome you with open hands! How could we possibly discriminate against you?! This woman must be purposely trying to create a scene."

“Where are the security guards?! How can they let someone like this inside?! Security, hurry up and help us! Come over and throw this woman who’s so full of herself out of the room!”

A few of the women raised their voices and yelled loudly. Meanwhile, several security guards rushed into the room from the outside.

“Miss, please come along with us.”

However, Elise was unaffected by their words, and she walked past them to sneer at the group of women who had lost their composure at the moment.

“So this is how Dukethorn welcomes its guests. You’re just behaving unreasonably and you seem to be very quick to gang up on others!”

As soon as she said that, a baritone male voice rang out from afar.

“What’s going on?”

At that moment, a peppered-hair man in a dove-gray suit with a crew cut parted the crowd and walked toward them.

“Mr. Carnegie, this woman purposely tried to cause trouble. She tried to stir up trouble between us and the guests who are from out of the city.” The plump woman quickly complained about Elise before the latter could even say anything.

Meanwhile, the Carnegie man frowned instantly upon hearing that. “Dukethorn is also a part of Cittadel. I won’t allow anyone to affect our harmonious state and there will be no exceptions! Guards, show her out of the room.”

The party was organized by a local Dukethorn resident and the guards were also locals so evidently, they did not side with Elise, who was an outsider.

The bystanders noticed the situation and had intended to speak up for Elise, but then they ended up silently giving up.

After all, they were all from Dukethorn, so it was home ground for the other party. They would definitely fight a losing battle if they kicked up a fuss. It was quite likely that they would be kicked out of the place too, so it made more sense to avoid trouble.

Elise stood immobile with a calm expression on her face. She scanned the crowd with her cold eyes and a teasing glint flashed through her gaze all of a sudden.

I won’t make a move unless someone lays hands on me! If they actually dared to lay hands on her, then she would not hold back any longer.

Meanwhile, security noticed that Elise refused to leave, so they exchanged looks with each other and were about to forcefully remove her.

However, as soon as their hands landed in front of Elise, a domineering voice rang out loudly from behind.

“I’ll stand here and see who dares to lay a hand on her!” Everyone turned toward the direction of the voice and saw Kenneth standing there, his expression glacial. He seemed to be shrouded with anger as he walked over to stand by Elise’s side.

Meanwhile, Melody remained close behind him.

“Mr. Bailey,” The Carnegie man behaved quite respectfully around Kenneth. “This is a personal matter, so you should stay out of it.”

“Stay out of it?” Kenneth snorted and his cold voice was quite penetrating as he countered, “You’re about to kick my woman out of the room, yet you want me to stay out of it?! How would that be reasonable?”

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Chapter 486 Up for a Match?

As soon as Kenneth said that, the whole room erupted into chaos.

Elise is his woman?! Then, what does that make Melody, who is practically stuck to his side all the time?

However, Melody acted aloof and she stood there quite calmly, as if she was not the least bit inquisitive of her boss’ woman.

Mr. Carnegie was initially stunned, but he quickly collected himself and chuckled. “This is unexpected, Mr. Bailey. You’re very good-looking, so you must be popular with the ladies. You young ones are quite impressive. I’m not a match at all.”

“You’ve got it wrong.” Elise then added, “I’m not related to him at all.”

However, Kenneth disregarded her words and looked toward Mr. Carnegie in resignation as he explained, “Women tend to enjoy such games.”

“I completely understand.” At that point, Mr. Carnegie revealed a knowing look and he patted Kenneth on the back. “I’m sorry for being rude earlier. Don’t take it personally.”

“It’s fine.” Kenneth dealt with everything with ease.

In the end, Mr. Carnegie made a move after making small talk for a short while.

Just then, Elise turned to glance coldly at Kenneth and she warned him, "You'd better not challenge my limits."

"Tsk!" Kenneth revealed a hurt look and said, "I'm heartbroken, Miss Sinclair. I helped you when you were in trouble, so how could you treat me this way?"

"I didn't ask you for help." Elise couldn't help rolling her eyes at him before walking off.

The smile on Kenneth's face disappeared and he turned to signal to Melody. Subsequently, the latter went after Elise.

"Miss Sinclair," Melody trailed after Elise and followed her as they strolled mindlessly along. "How much do you know about Mr. Carnegie?"

"I don't know him." As soon as Elise finished her words, she suddenly realized that Melody had been following her. "Why are you following me?"

Meanwhile, Melody ignored her question and continued to explain, "Jim Carnegie is the organizer of the gem auction event and he's the head of one of the founding families of Dukethorn. In the past, the Carnegie Family would always manage to gain a lot of top-grade gemstones from each gem auction event. All this while, they have also maintained their position as the primary founding family quite well but last year, there was a slight occurrence..."

At that, Melody stopped suddenly, seemingly lost in her memories.

At that moment, Elise was quite engrossed so she took the initiative to ask, "Why did you stop? Do continue. I hate it when someone stops halfway while talking!"

"Last year, there was a girl, who was known as God's Chosen Girl, and all of the stones that she bid on turned out to be top-grade ones. As for the Carnegies, they barely uncovered any top-grade stones, so they were humiliated in public. Over these years, the Carnegies had established themselves in Dukethorn and lived quite lavishly. They completely disregarded the outsiders. However, God's Chosen Girl turned the tides and brought pride to the non-locals."

Melody seemed to admire God's Chosen Girl very much and this was evident judging by the look she had on her face, which she rarely showed.

Elise found Melody's reaction quite comical, so the former slowed down and lifted her eyebrows teasingly. "So, where can I find God's Chosen Girl?"

The sparkle in Melody's eyes dimmed when she heard that. "She disappeared right after the gem auction event. Perhaps it was because too many people wanted to get her to work for them and she got quite annoyed about that. In the end, she went off the grid. I'm not even sure whether she's going to attend this year's event."

“That’s wishful thinking. God’s Chosen Girl is a load of baloney! She was just lucky, that’s all. Even if she dares to attend this year’s event, she won’t be able to have such good luck again. Perhaps she might only be here to entertain the crowd. Ha!”

Elise turned around and looked in the direction of the voice, and she saw a guy. He had a carefree attitude and was dressed quite outlandishly too. Just then, he walked in surrounded by a few people.

“Who are you, anyway?” Elise asked in an unpleasant tone.

Meanwhile, Melody whispered in her ear, “He’s Ziggy Carnegie, the only son of the guy you met earlier, Jim Carnegie.”

Just then, Ziggy headed straight in Elise’s direction and he stopped in front of her. He didn’t hold back at all and he studied her intently, a roguish look in his eyes. “You’re such a stunning beauty! Is this your first time here? Do you know who I am?”

Meanwhile, Elise couldn’t quite fight back the repulse within her as her eyes met his flirtatious ones.

Suddenly, Kenneth appeared from nowhere and he stood protectively in front of Elise. “What a strange coincidence. Firstly, your father wanted to kick my woman out of the place and now, you’ve come over to provoke me too. It looks like your whole family doesn’t care too much about your own lives, I believe?”

A slightly impatient look flashed across Ziggy’s face, but he changed the topic in resignation. “You guys were talking about God’s Chosen Girl, right? Ha! She’s such a coward! If she was actually brave enough, she should come out and compete with me publicly. I’ve been searching for her for almost a year now, but she hasn’t accepted my challenge. Obviously, she must have realized that she doesn’t stand a chance to win against us Carnegies.”

Meanwhile, Elise was baffled as she thought, I didn’t even know that you were searching for me! If I knew, I would have appeared to teach you a lesson. You wouldn’t even have the chance to stand here and show off!

“Mr. Carnegie, I don’t think it’s fair to say that. God’s Chosen Girl comes and goes as she pleases, so perhaps she didn’t even realize that you issued her a challenge. If you guys actually competed on the same stage, you might not be a match for her,” Melody stated calmly without giving a thought to Ziggy’s pride.

Somehow, Elise could sense Melody’s protectiveness from her words, and the former smiled casually in response.

At that point, Ziggy was angered to the point where there was a flash of murderous intent in his eyes.

“Don’t mention such nonsense to me! I don’t care about God’s Chosen Girl or God’s Chosen Guy, for that matter. We’ve got a secret weapon this time, so no one will be able to steal our limelight!”

“Oh?” Elise snorted coldly, a mocking look in her eyes. Her gaze was icy and instantly, the whole room was stunned by her imposing manner.

However, Ziggy was blissfully unaware of the changes in her aura and he continued to leer at her.

With a sly glint in her eyes, Elise squinted before smiling at him. “Are you up for a match right now?”

Ziggy was stunned to hear that. “Compete in stone gambling? With you?”

“Yes, with me.” The smile on Elise’s face remained as she continued, “Let’s compete to see who can discover a jade that’s darker in color and a stone that is worth a higher figure.”

Meanwhile, Kenneth’s expression darkened and he glanced at Melody.

Instantly, the woman voiced out her objections, “Miss Sinclair, don’t make any hasty moves. The Carnegie Family always seems to have an advantage in stone gambling, so you’re not his match.”

“Don’t worry.” Elise’s eyes narrowed as she smiled and she gave Melody a reassuring look before turning to Ziggy. “Do you have the guts to compete with me?”

“Why not?!” She had successfully piqued Ziggy’s interest, and he rubbed his palms together in anticipation as he licked his lower lip.

He could clearly tell that Elise was an outsider. If this happened in a game, she would just be handing herself to him on a silver platter, so of course he was going to take it.

The Carnegie Family had not lost a stone gambling match in so many years, and the only exception was that match with God’s Chosen Girl.

Well, it doesn’t mean that any random woman would be God’s Chosen Girl, so there’s nothing to be afraid of. As soon as Ziggy thought of this, he felt very confident all of a sudden and an evil thought came to his mind.

“However, this is a match, so it would be much more fun if there’s a prize for the winner.” As Ziggy said that, he stared perversely at Elise’s slender waist. Her waist is so slender. I wonder how it would feel to have my hands wrapped around it?

“What do you want the prize to be?” Elise asked.

“I like that you’re so straightforward. Since that’s the case, then I’ll be frank too. If you lose, I want you to be my bedmate for a week. How does that sound?” Ziggy smiled furtively.

Kenneth, who was by the side and hadn’t spoken a word up till now, suddenly clenched his teeth so hard that the veins on his temples pulsated visibly.

Nonetheless, Elise maintained her smile and calmly responded, “That’s not a problem. But what if I win?”

“You can have me and do whatever you want with me.”

“That’s not needed. I would be quite repulsed by that.” After some consideration, Elise spoke up once again, “You’ve got a jewelry shop that’s doing quite well, right?”

Dukethorn was renowned for its jadeites and the Carnegie Family was established in Dukethorn. Naturally, they were involved in a lot of industries related to the jade business, so it wouldn’t be an exaggeration to say that most of the jewelry shops in Dukethorn belonged to them.

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Chapter 487 She Is So Fierce

When Ziggy acquired a high grade gemstone a few years ago, Jim had handed him a huge investment, allowing him to open such a shop.

With the backing of the Carnegies, the performance of the shop rose exponentially, making it the most profitable shop in the Carnegie Family.

Is this woman trying to acquire the shop?

However, Elise was able to see through his thoughts immediately.

“Stop thinking about it. I don’t want your shop,” she uttered. “However, I’m interested in your staff. If I win, I will get to choose any of your staff members in the shop. What do you say?”

Puzzled by her words, Ziggy couldn’t help but furrow his brows.

I don’t recall anyone in the shop being outstanding. What is this woman aiming at?

“If you are afraid of a bet, you can always admit defeat.” Elise provoked him in a strange tone.

As expected, he fell for it instantly. “Who says that I’m afraid? It’s a deal. I won’t even bat an eyelash if you asked for the entire shop, let alone someone who works there!”

“Fine. I’ll just take the entire shop then!” Elise said with confidence.

“You—” Ziggy didn’t expect her to be so confident with herself, so it became hard for him to step away from the challenge. Since he had already said what he said, he couldn’t embarrass the entire Carnegie Family in front of everyone. Therefore, he withdrew his curses and began to put on a show. “Just you wait and see!”

After that, he left with his subordinates.

Not long after, Melody went up to Elise and asked in a concerned tone, “Miss Sinclair, are you actually familiar with stone gambling?”

“I know nothing about it.” Elise smiled uncaringly.

In truth, she only had a superficial understanding of stone gambling.

Upon hearing that, Kenneth quickly walked up to her. “Miss Sinclair, if you are willing to ask me, I won’t mind helping you once more.”

She immediately gave him a sharp glare. “If you want to keep your dignity, you better stay away from me in the future.”

After that, she left without looking back.

Standing at the same spot, Kenneth shook his head silently. “She is so fierce...”

Even though he was ridiculing her, he couldn’t help but reveal a delighted smile.

Feeling a chilling sense behind her back, Melody turned around and shivered when she noticed his smile. “Boss, you do know that your smile is terrifying, right?”

In the end, Elise found Tom among the crowd.

“Miss Ander—” Before he could finish his words, he was met with Elise’s murderous gaze, so he quickly corrected himself. “Miss Elise, are you alright? I heard that someone was causing trouble at the party. I was looking around for you!”

“I’m fine.” She placed her hand on his shoulder. “Do you know who Tina Baker is?”

Tom froze. Upon seeing that, Elise smiled knowingly. As expected, he actually knows who she is.

...

Time passed and the gem auction event was around the corner.

Although the event was held every year, because of the God's Chosen Girl incident last year, countless people who dreamed of being rich overnight suddenly had hope. Therefore, many people had come to the event, wishing to be the next 'chosen one' and climb to the top of the social ladder.

At 10 AM, Elise and Tom entered the venue.

When they arrived at the entrance, they got a glimpse of the gemstones of different sizes displayed on each side of the hall.

Tom instantly became obsessed with the dazzling rows of gemstones displayed, and he felt as though he was in heaven as he glided into the hall.

"This is my first time seeing such a sight. The quality of these gemstones are so different!" he exclaimed while his eyes lit up.

Just as Elise was about to tease him with a smile, the mocking voice of a man was heard behind them.

"Are you really saying that these are gemstones of good quality? The reason why you can touch and see it is because they are just playthings that are not worthy of joining the hall of honor. The real treasure has not been taken out yet, and only that is considered as one of the rarest treasures in the world."

The man looked at Tom, as if the latter was a clown, before his lascivious gaze landed on Elise.

By his voice alone, she could instantly recognize that it was Ziggy, so she didn't even bother to turn around.

Instead, she followed Tom around the hall to check on the gemstones.

All of a sudden, Elise's gaze locked onto a direction.

"Tom!" She nudged him before lifting her chin and pointing in the direction she was looking at. "Look carefully—what do you think about those gemstones?"

Bewildered, he looked and saw the dozens of gemstones of all sizes stacked over each other, but he couldn't see what was so special with them.

Behind him, Ziggy chuckled. "Pretty girl, didn't anyone tell you that the exquisite gemstones won't be displayed in the outer hall? Even if you are the God's Chosen Girl, you will find that all the exquisite stones come from the inner hall. Do you seriously think

that you can compete with me when it comes to this? By the looks of it, the two of us are destined to be together in bed!”

However, Elise ignored him and dragged Tom over to the pile of gemstones. “Look at them carefully.”

Although he agreed with what Ziggy said, Elise was now his boss and he couldn't defy her, so he had no choice but to pick up the gemstones one by one obediently to have a look.

Meanwhile, Elise did not waste her time, and she kept on reciting in her mind the trick that the old man gave her while scanning through all the gemstones nearby. Occasionally, she would pick them up and weigh them in her hand.

Most of the people who attended the gem auction would rush into the inner hall immediately in search of that gemstone which would grant them a fortune overnight. The people in the outer hall were just there to pass the time and chat with each other. Almost no one was interested in the gemstones displayed on each side.

Therefore, Elise and Tom, who were seriously examining the gemstones, easily stood out from the rest.

“Are those two that inexperienced? Everyone knows that the gemstones aren't that much different from the stones you pick up beside the road. It'll be easier for them to just pick a stone on the side of the road!”

“I heard that this woman has a bet with Ziggy. I reckon that she has lost her mind. Everyone knows that the Carnegie Family is in a hot streak this year, and I heard that they have a secret weapon on hand. I can't believe she agreed to the bet given how far apart their abilities are. If it was me, I would never agree to it!”

“A secret weapon? Could it be...”

“Let's not make any judgments first. Maybe she is also another God's Chosen Girl. Ha!”

As they continued with their conversation, Elise, who was standing in a corner, suddenly carried a second-hand gemstone in her hand and walked toward the person responsible for registration. “I want this. Please register it for me. Thank you.”

Immediately, the onlookers were rendered speechless.

She is too hasty! How could she make such a decision without thinking it through? Does she think this is a game?

Even the person in charge of registration couldn't help but look at her strangely, but he still completed the registration professionally.

At the moment, almost half of the people in the hall felt sorry for Elise. She really doesn't have the talent for this, does she?

They were sure that the gemstone she chose wouldn't lead to anything good.

While Elise calmly watched the staff member record the gemstone she chose, a figure suddenly appeared next to her.

"Miss Sinclair, I believe I should explain to you that all the gemstones in the outer hall are low grade stones. There isn't much chance of getting a high grade jadeite from them."

This time, Elise was a little surprised, because this wasn't the first time Melody had tried to help her.

Is she now beyond saving? Not only can she tolerate her man's philandering, she can also accept and protect the woman her man actually loves.

"Thank you, but I believe that no stone or person should be judged while under uncertainty. Until the last moment, no one can say for sure that this gemstone has no value at all," Elise said in a calm tone. Even though her voice wasn't loud, the onlookers around her could hear her every word clearly.

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Chapter 488 I'm Tired and I Want to Sleep!

"This woman really is unreasonable!"

"Exactly! Everyone is being kind by giving her advice, but she is still so stubborn about it. Serves her right to lose all that money."

"You should mind your own business. Even if she loses all that money, it is still hers. She is just a silly girl with a lot of money, so you should just let her be!"

Elise felt that the last sentence made sense, so she said, "Correct. I don't have anything but money and I don't like keeping it in my pocket, so the only way for me to be happy is to spend it!"

She was able to shut everyone up with her outrageous statement.

However, as soon as she was done speaking, Kenneth rudely interrupted, "Miss Sinclair, I really admire your bold personality. Is it possible for us to exchange our experience on failures?"

She immediately narrowed her eyes, filling them with murderous intent.

It was clear from her expression that she would kill Kenneth if he continued down that path.

Upon seeing that, Melody was afraid that Kenneth might actually die in Elise's hands, so she quickly cleared her throat and reminded, "It's time to go in."

It was only then that Kenneth withdrew his flirtatious gaze and composed himself before resuming to his usual indifferent expression. "I know." He turned toward Elise again and murmured, "I'll wait for you inside."

With that, he went inside while a smiling Melody nodded at Elise before following him inside.

Elise was left there shaking her head in regret. A woman like her doesn't deserve that scumbag of a man!

As the entrance of the inner hall was opened, no one else cared about what Elise was doing, so they stood in readiness before walking in at the same time.

Of course, Ziggy was also among the crowd and when he met her, he didn't forget to provoke her again. "Since you are so confident in your abilities, why don't you just stay outside and use the jadeite from these low-grade stones to beat me?"

However, Elise looked at him as though she was looking at an idiot. "Do you own this building? I don't think you have the right to forbid me from entering." After rolling her eyes at him, she paused for a moment and looked around before raising her brows. "Why did the Carnegie Family send only you here for such a huge event?"

Ziggy felt a hint of danger coming from her, so he countered, "How is this any of your business?"

Without answering him, she spread her hands and quickly went in with Tom.

The gemstones in the inner hall were displayed in a much more organized fashion than those in the outer hall. Even though the inner hall was twice as large as the outer hall, the amount of gemstones displayed here was only half of what was displayed in the outer hall. Every stone was displayed as though it was a work of art, and the base was listed with the label and price of the gemstone.

The staff members here also had their own specialized uniform accompanied with headphones and pagers. There were also a lot of bodyguards in the hall, which showed the difference in value between the inner and outer hall.

The lights inside were also a little more professional as there were special searchlights set up next to the gemstones for guests to pick up and shine the stones.

Even someone as calm as Melody couldn't help but feel excited.

However, there were two exceptions—Ziggy and Elise.

The former was the last one to enter the hall but after taking a few steps inside, he stopped and scanned the whole place with a contemptuous gaze, having no intentions of walking in any further.

Meanwhile, Elise stood aside casually, looking bored and impatient, as if she wasn't focused at all.

To others, however, she was acting rather self-defeating. Since she knew that she would lose, she wasn't putting any effort into anything.

Tom was one of those people who saw it that way.

He wanted to be a good advisor to Elise, so he took the initiative to go up to her and ask, "Miss Sinclair, do you want me to teach you while you pick the stones? If we don't do it sooner, all the good stones will be taken."

"Okay." She nodded her head thoughtfully. The next second, she turned around and headed out. "I'm tired. I'm going back to sleep."

"Alright... What?!" Tom was left dumbfounded. When he turned around, Elise had already disappeared through the door.

Oh my god! Why do I have such an unreliable boss?! It looks like I have no other choice. I can only rely on myself at the moment.

Tom clenched his fists and rushed into the crowd, acting as if he had nothing to lose.

Soon, the morning had passed.

After wandering around for a while, Elise felt a bit hungry, so she went to a restaurant outside the venue to eat.

The showroom in Dukethorn was all right, but it lacked infrastructure and restaurants, so it was easy to bump into someone when eating.

After ordering her food, Elise waited in her seat while the people at the table next to her chatted feverishly.

"Hey, did you hear that a silly girl with tons of money has a bet with Ziggy? I can't believe that she began choosing from the stones in the outer hall when the event started. What a newbie!"

“Really? What is the result of their bet?”

“I think that woman already chose a gemstone, but Ziggy hasn’t made his move yet.”

“Are you sure? It’s understandable if that silly woman couldn’t pick one out, but how could Ziggy... Does that mean all the good stuff is taken?”

“How the hell do I know? Ziggy is acting a bit weird this time!”

“I don’t think it’s as complicated as you think it is. Ziggy is interested in that woman, so he wants to play it safe.”

“What do you mean?”

“Don’t you know? The main prize of their bet is that if Ziggy wins, that woman will have to be his bedmate for a week. If it was me, I’ll definitely satisfy her as much as I can. By then, I’ll have both the money and the woman. Ha!”

Just as the man was getting excited, a porcelain bowl suddenly fell on his head as the sticky stew inside spilled on his face.

“What the f*ck? Who is the idiot who did this? Can’t you see that I’m sitting here?!” The man stood up abruptly and wiped his face before glaring at the person who threw the bowl.

While holding a cup with one hand and the other naturally hanging at the side of his body, Kenneth uttered with a cold and indifferent expression, “It was an accident.”

The man was instantly rendered speechless.

He accidentally spilled the whole thing right above me?

Immediately, the dirtied man was infuriated as his suit was a custom-made one, and it would waste his time when he went to change to another one back in his hotel. By then, he would have missed a lot of precious gemstones, which was a loss he wanted someone to be responsible for.

“You’re definitely here to cause trouble. Don’t you have eyes?!” The man bared his teeth fiercely while clenching his fists. “You better kneel down and apologize to me; otherwise, I won’t let you walk out of this shop with both your legs intact!”

The man was obviously born in Dukethorn as he had an oppressive aura, thinking that no one would dare to offend him on his own turf.

“Is that so?” Kenneth smirked. “Do as you please, then.”

Immediately, the man's eyes widened in anger. "You smug b*stard! You asked for this!"

After that, he raised his fists and launched himself at Kenneth.

Just as the man's fist was about to collide with Kenneth's face, Kenneth suddenly moved aside to avoid his punch before reaching out to engulf the man's entire fist.

Then, he swung his other hand and smashed a glass straight at the man's face.

As pieces of glass fell to the floor, the water was splashed on the man's face, washing away remnants of the stew.

"Let me go!" the man screamed in pain.

"I've washed your face for you. Are you satisfied?" Kenneth questioned with an eyebrow raised.

"Pfft!" Suddenly, a quirky giggle was heard.

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Chapter 489 Are You Admitting That I'm Your Husband?

Everyone looked toward the source of the voice and realized that the giggle came from a fair and delicate girl.

"I'm sorry, but this is too funny. I can't hold back my laughter."

After letting out a chuckle, Kenneth threw the man aside and casted his gaze on Elise once more.

The man rubbed his aching wrist before looking at Elise in annoyance. "Where did you come from, you ignorant wild girl? Are you looking for trouble?"

The man knew that he was no match against Kenneth and since he had already embarrassed himself, there was no turning back. However, being laughed at by a woman was another thing, so he couldn't bring himself to endure it no matter what.

"Are you talking about me?" Elise asked knowingly while tilting her head, her expression innocent. "I'm the rich silly girl that you talked about just now..."

Kenneth then moved and went over to her. Lowering his head, he murmured, "Miss Sinclair, looks like I've helped you out again. I believe that this isn't the first time. Have you thought of a way to repay me?"

"I don't need to." She immediately put on an indifferent expression as she commented, "You did it on your own accord. I didn't ask you for it."

Seeing that they knew each other, the man suddenly felt his breath stop.

While they were still chatting with each other, he silently grabbed his jacket on the chair and moved toward the door one step at a time, edging sideways just like a crab.

"Stop right there!" As if he had eyes behind his back, Kenneth dragged those three words out and halted the man. Turning around slowly, Kenneth questioned, "Do you really think you can just walk away and pretend as if nothing has happened after saying what you've said?"

When Melody came in, she could feel that there was something wrong in the atmosphere, so she quickly went up and reminded Kenneth, "We are currently not in Smith Co.'s turf. It's best if you don't cause any trouble."

"You've misunderstood me, Melody." He put on an innocent look as he commented, "How could an honest man like me cause any trouble? Why don't you ask him?"

With that, he raised his chin and pointed at the man leaning against the wall.

Looking at the man, Melody furrowed her brows in resignation and thought for a second before walking toward him. "I'm sorry, sir, but he has a bad temper." Just as the man was about to tell her that everything was fine, she continued, "That is why I need you to apologize to him."

What? He hit me because he has a bad temper, but I have to be the one to apologize? The man looked confused as he mused it over, Did I hear her wrong? Or is that woman talking nonsense?

"ICU....."

"You can also choose not to apologize to him." Melody looked indifferent as she continued, "Then, I can only let him make you apologize to him himself so that he can vent his anger. If I remember correctly, the last person whom he vented his anger on is still lying in the ICU—"

Before she finished her words, the man immediately put his hands together and knelt on the floor. "I'm sorry! What I did just now was wrong." He kept on apologizing while slapping himself. "I know that what I said was reckless and I was too ignorant to know any better. I hope that you can have mercy and forgive me. Don't lower yourself to my level!"

However, Kenneth's expression remained the same as he cocked his head and looked at Elise, who was standing next to him. "It'll all depend on whether this pretty girl wants to forgive you or not."

"Yes, of course." The man kowtowed to her. "O' pretty girl, I was wrong and I won't dare to do it again. I hope that you can be merciful enough to forgive me this time!"

Elise pouted her lips as she wasn't in the mood to bother with him any longer. "Go away. Don't spoil my appetite."

"Thank you, o' pretty girl. Thank you very much!" With that, the man crawled out of the restaurant. The others who ate on the same table as him also scattered silently as they were afraid of getting themselves into trouble.

Grunting, Elise ignored Kenneth directly and sat back on her seat.

The moment she sat down, she could feel a warm breath breathing down her ear from above.

At the same time, Kenneth's ambiguous voice was heard. "Miss Sinclair, in ancient times, people usually fell in love with the hero when he saved the damsel in distress. Don't you think you should do something about it?"

The numbing feeling immediately softened her body. Elise didn't know what was wrong with herself but she still had the sense to make a move first, so she took out her silver needle right away and stabbed behind her.

However, Kenneth steadily intercepted and grabbed her hand.

Looking at the silver needle inches away from his eyes, he revealed a teasing smile. "It's illegal to murder your own husband."

She gritted her teeth and replied, "Then I'll just have to inflict something worse than death on you."

"Tsk! You're so cruel." He smiled faintly and his tone became frivolous again as he purred, "Does that mean you admit that I'm your husband?"

"You... Go to hell!"

This time, Elise was really enraged as she let go of the needle and began to throw punches at him.

Since Kenneth refused to fight back, he was forced to retreat and in the end, he was kicked right in the chest, causing him to back out of the restaurant.

Just as she was about to rush out to teach him a lesson, Melody suddenly ran over and blocked her way.

“Miss Sinclair, please forgive him.”

Looking at her, Elise couldn't help but furrow her brows. She couldn't care less whether Kenneth lived or died, but Melody was indeed a good person, so she couldn't ignore her constant plea for mercy.

“Take him away from my sight immediately.” Elise turned her back on them and uttered darkly, “Miss Melody, I may owe you a favor but even if it's paid off, I can't guarantee that I won't be merciless if you can't control him the next time.”

“Thank you.” Melody bowed. With that, she gave Kenneth a look before leaving with him.

After walking away and confirming no one was behind them, Melody couldn't help but scoff. “Boss, I don't understand why you like to do this to yourself.”

“I've told you—this is my way of having fun. You won't understand it.” Kenneth patted at the place where he was kicked just now while talking sweetly to himself, “Even though Ellie looks fierce, she is still so adorable. Hehe...”

Listening to him, Melody shivered as goosebumps appeared all over her body. I think I should just keep my mouth shut.

...

After the lunch break, the inner hall was opened again.

It was still open for the people to visit and choose. As for the outer hall, it now had an additional programme other than displaying ordinary gemstones, which was the opening of the stones.

The gemstones picked by the guests in the morning would be opened by the gemstone masters in the afternoon in the order of registration.

The opening of gemstones had always been a long-running favorite of the convention, so the onlookers kept on pouring in, making the scene very lively.

Unlike Landred City, the convention prioritized efficiency, so they had a row of more than a dozen machines and gemstone masters operating at the same time.

Meanwhile, Elise yawned and watched the show from a distance.

After a long wait, someone finally let out a long-awaited gasp.

“The quality... The color... It’s completely perfect!”

This is definitely a top quality product. Look at how refined that watery luster is!”

“Who is so lucky to have gotten the first quality jadeite?”

“Let me check the registration... I-It’s Kenneth Bailey! It’s actually him!”

Initially, Elise did not react but after hearing Kenneth’s name, she raised her brows in surprise.

That playboy actually has some abilities in stone gambling?

Thinking about it, she instinctively looked around with a vigilant gaze, afraid that Kenneth would pop up in a place she least expected.

When she thought about his ambiguous breath next to her ear at noon, she felt ashamed and annoyed as she began to regret letting him go that easily.

D*mn it! It’s obvious that he is in the wrong, so why should I be scared?

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Chapter 490 We Are Destined for Each Other

“Miss Sinclair!” Tom suddenly came out of nowhere, scaring Elise.

“What’s all this fuss about?” she asked with some annoyance.

“Machine No. 9 is now working on our gemstone. Do you want to take a look at it?” he questioned.

“Alright.” Upon hearing that, Elise nodded her head and went toward the place he specified.

“She’s here. That woman is here!”

“This is the gemstone she chose.”

“I’m surprised she actually dared to come. All the gemstones opened today came from the inner hall, except for hers. I wonder if there’ll be any surprises...”

“What? It came from the outer hall? Then I better look at the other machines.”

Less than a minute after Elise arrived, half of the people there were already gone.

To her, it was a good thing because the air was much fresher with fewer people.

Then, the gemstone master began to open her gemstone.

Not long after, Tom screamed, "I see green!"

Even the gemstone master couldn't help but be surprised.

Immediately, the people who looked away were drawn by the commotion again as they stretched their necks to watch the action, wanting to know what good could come from that stone.

Ziggy, who was observing everything silently from afar, couldn't help but concentrate on Elise's stone.

Could it be that this woman really is the second God's Chosen Girl? Can she really turn a stone into treasure?

Everyone's eyes were locked onto the gemstone master's hands, as if their eyes were the ones opening the gemstones instead of the tools.

Finally, the master opened the outermost layer of the stone, revealing its interior.

Everyone went silent for a moment.

"Hahaha..."

After a short silence, their laughter echoed across the hall.

"As expected, nothing good comes from the outer hall. What was I expecting?"

"Not only is its quality average, it also has impurities and broken layers. I wouldn't take it even if it was free!"

"She is just an ordinary woman after all. I actually thought that there would be a second God's Chosen Girl, but it seems like I was thinking too much. Serves her right for competing with Ziggy with this level of ability! I think that it's possible that she is fond of Ziggy and was just finding an excuse to go to bed with him."

The interior appearance of the gemstone that was lying on the machine was indeed imperfect.

However, Elise remained calm, as if she had expected the outcome.

As for Tom, he was so worried that he could feel his eyes falling off. The whole time, he kept on wiping away the cold sweat on his forehead.

This is bad! Miss Sinclair really knows nothing about stone gambling. She only won that stone gambling in Landred City entirely because of luck. Based on her ability today, she is no match against Ziggy, let alone his secret weapon!

“Miss Sinclair, y-you...” Tom stuttered as he didn’t know how to persuade her.

Should I find some local enforcements to help cancel the bet? Even though we’ll lose some money, I can’t allow a little girl like her to fall in the hands of Ziggy. Who knows what kind of torture she’ll have to endure? Maybe there’s still time to hire a professional stone gambler since today is only the first day!

However, Elise lifted her hand and patted her mouth as she yawned lazily. “What should I do? I’m feeling sleepy again.”

“Miss Sinclair, please stop joking around. The lunch break just ended...” Tom smiled bitterly.

Upon hearing that, she casually patted his shoulder. “Don’t be so anxious. After I’m done recuperating, we’ll battle again. Are you confident in holding the fort by yourself?”

Tom couldn’t bring himself to smile as he said truthfully, “No.”

“Actually, you don’t have to be this honest with me all the time...” She gave an awkward smile.

Looking at her, Tom was completely rendered speechless. He also wanted to joke but under the circumstances, he really couldn’t bring himself to laugh.

“Forget about it. You can just pick any one. I’ll head back to sleep now.” She waved her hand and turned around before walking out.

“Hey, wasn’t it Miss Sinclair who just opened a gemstone with broken layers? What’s the problem? Have you realized that you don’t have the eye for this so you’re trying to run away?” Ziggy’s mocking voice was suddenly heard.

However, Elise wasn’t in the mood to entertain him.

“At least I’ve opened a stone. What about you? You didn’t even open one. Who are you looking for while wandering around blindly?” she said while pretending not to care. As soon as her words reached Ziggy’s ears, he immediately became vigilant, as if he was facing a big enemy of his. Elise smiled thoughtfully and continued, “Looks like I’m right. I’m starting to become increasingly interested in your secret weapon, Mr. Carnegie.”

Ziggy’s gaze gradually changed from uncertainty to one of certainty.

As he gritted his teeth, he lifted his chin slightly and acted intimidating all of a sudden. "So what if I have a secret weapon? You're losing anyway. You better clean yourself properly in the next few days, because I'll definitely show you what I'm made of!"

The disdain in Elise's eyes grew when she heard that.

People will only raise their volume to cheer themselves on because they lack confidence.

"We shall wait and see." She shrugged and left.

The moment Elise returned to the hotel, she really fell asleep.

When she woke up, it was already dark outside and she was feeling hungry, so she washed herself up and grabbed a jacket before going out to buy something to eat.

The restaurants near the hotel were bad and expensive, so she decided to go a little further to a famous food street in Dukethorn.

However, after walking for a while, she vaguely felt that something was wrong, so she stopped beside a car on the side of the road and pretended to do her makeup in the mirror. However, she was quietly observing the scene behind her through the rearview mirror.

Sure enough, several people came out of the car on the right one after another, all staring at her fiercely while holding a variety of weapons, such as wooden sticks and the like.

As for Elise, she pretended as though nothing was going on as she calmly tidied her bangs before continuing to walk forward.

Seeing that she was walking away, the group of people quickly jogged over and followed her, since they were afraid of losing her.

Behind them, a slender figure followed suit silently.

Since they were some distance away from the hotel entrance and gradually walking into an ordinary street, the group of people prepared to find somewhere isolated to jump on her. However, Elise suddenly turned a corner into an alley next to her.

The man in front smiled smugly and paused for a moment before excitedly ordering his men, "Let's go!"

She walked quickly in the alley and finally left those people some distance away. Then, she quickly ran into a corner and climbed up the beam along the items placed under the roof, ready to jump down when they walked past so that she could scare them.

Seeing her disappearing around the corner, the group of people sped up.

The man in front was very vigilant. When approaching the corner, he suddenly slowed down and raised the stick in his hand before slowly turning the corner.

When turning the corner, a man behind him suddenly bumped into him, pushing him directly onto the opposite wall.

Just as the leader turned around and was about to yell, he found that a man in a suit had appeared behind them at some point.

“Who are you? You better mind your own business!” The leader warned the other man.

Kenneth tidied his suit and hooked his fingers impatiently. “I don’t want to waste my time, so please come at me all at once.”

His words instantly enraged the thugs as they picked up their sticks that had fallen to the ground and viciously lunged at him.

However, Kenneth calmly lifted one of his feet and did a swirling kick on two thugs. His moves were utterly strong and deadly.

While waiting for the thugs to arrive, Elise felt strange when she heard noises of fighting instead, so she jumped down from the beam and casually walked back the way she came.

Meanwhile, Kenneth accurately sensed the figure approaching from the other end of the alley, so he kicked down one of the two thugs who was still standing. When the other person lunged at him with a stick, Kenneth didn’t avoid it and took the hit. In the end, he turned around and fell backward.

The moment Elise arrived, she instinctively caught the falling man.

“Miss Sinclair, do you now believe that we are destined for each other?”