

Warning My Mommy is A Savage! by Seeking A Peaceful

Chapter 301-329

Chapter 301

It was only after Charmine left the company did she realize her vehicle was towed away for repair, and it would take at least a few days.

Just as Charmine took out her phone to call for a taxi, a private car pulled over in front of her as the door slid open.

She was greeted with the sight of a giddy Chris in the car as he waved her over. "Mommy! Come on in, come on in!"

There they were, both Anthony and Chris, sitting at the backseats!

Charmine's lips tightened. They came to pick her up...? Did they know her vehicle was towed away?

Charmine cautiously monitored her surroundings and made sure no one was around before she got into the car, but she noted their positions right after. Chris sat by the window, thus that left Anthony who sat in the middle. In other words, Charmine would have to sit next to Anthony...

Chris picked up Charmine's suspicious and wary gaze before he quickly, yet sheepishly, explained, "I'm sorry, Mommy. I'm having motion sickness right now, so I gotta take the seat next to the window."

His reply astounded Charmine.

Cough! Cough!

She had known Chris long enough to know that the boy would not get motion sickness from car rides. Furthermore, the luxury car had a panoramic window with good ventilation. How was it possible to get motion sickness on this car? 1

As composed as he usually was, Anthony asked with concern, "Is everything sorted out?"

"Mhm. With your help, it's impossible for it to not be resolved," praised Charmine, a rare occurrence that hardly happened before. Chris clapped with his little hands. "Wow! Daddy is awesome! Daddy is so awesome! Mommy, did you prepare any gift for Daddy?"

Charmine frowned. She had it in mind to find a suitable gift for him when they suddenly came and picked her up. Her eyes darted as she asked, "What about five percent share of the Gray Diamond Empire as a

gesture of gratitude? Would that be alright?"

"Apologies, I never liked material things. Also, you don't have to thank me. It's nothing," replied Anthony

'Nothing'?

He asked hundreds of his staff to work overtime and even made a retired-pregnant vice-president do him a favor. How were those 'nothing'?

Charmine looked at him. "Anthony, as you know, I' never liked to owe people. Since you've helped me, I must thank you. Tell me what you want, anything!" a

Her words were determined and straightforward.

"Are you sure?" Anthony asked.

Charmine made a small sound of reply. The more favors she owed him, the more uneasy she would feel. Returning him some favors would do more good than harm.

Still, never in a million years would Charmine expect Anthony's blunt, not-beating-around-the-bush reply." I'd like Ms. Jordan to marry me."

— Cough! Cough... Cough! Cough! Marry him?!

*Anthony Bailey," gasped Charmine, "you're being unreasonable!"

"But didn't you say I can ask for anything?" countered Anthony, his deep voice sounded serious yet innocent altogether.

"Mommy, didn't you teach me not to lie?" Chris chimed in. "You have to keep your word!"

Charmine let out a dry cough before she scrambled to explain, "It's not that I don't keep my words, it's just that... It's just... What I meant was for him to ask for anything within my power, excluding such an important matter!"

"Oh?" Anthony frowned, but after a moment of deep thought, he asked, "What about a kiss for three seconds? That's not something too much, I hope?"

Cough! Cough!

Kiss...?

Charmine intended to call him out as a pervert, but Chris commented, "That's too easy! Daddy and Mommy kissing is a normal thing! And it's only for three second! Mommy, you can't refuse this time!"

Charmine was flabbergasted.

If she was to refuse again, it would create a negative impression on Chris...

Whatever! He only asked for three seconds anyway, and it was not like they had never kissed before.

Charmine hooked her arms around Anthony's neck and leaned forward. She lowered her head and kissed on his lips.

Chapter 302

Charmine was too fast, too swift, and Anthony jolted at the softness he felt on his lips. His eyes narrowed, but just as he was about to taste the moment, Charmine had let him go and adjusted herself in her seat

"Time's up

she said.

Was it the time already? How could three seconds flew by so quickly?

Still, Anthony did not dwell on that aspect. He merely licked his lips before they curled up into a faint smile

That was the first time Charmine took the initiative to kiss him. It was enough for the time being; there would be more where that came from... 1

Charmine saw the smirk on his face, his expression seductive as always, and she could barely keep her rampaging heart in check. She was too brazen in her kiss, and when she thought about it, it seemed a little too much...

What was the status of their relationship, anyway?

Charmine sensed the strange shift in the atmosphere and fished out her phone to kill time. She intended to read the news on Scarlet, but she was surprised to see her name in the heated discussion forum, with the title (Charmine the Godly Leader!] making it to the third most-discussed topic on Twitter

A tap on the tweet revealed the post in its entirety.

(Charmine saved Scarlet with her wit. She investigated the truth and found the evidence to defend Scarlet. Don't you want a Godly Leader like Charmine?)

In the discussion section, the comments read:

[Boss Jordan is amazing! I want a leader like her!]

(How can I be assigned to a leader like her? I want one, please!

(Am I the only person who saw a problem here? Charmine made Unity Phone Company go through someone's call history! She's neither an investigator nor a Unity staff. What rights does she have to do that?)

(Just because she's rich, huh? So she can do anything just because she's rich, is that it?)

(Ah! Doesn't that mean she can go through our entire call-history as she pleases?)

(Unity's security team is so useless! They'd sell out their customers' privacy for money?)

(To be fair, Charmine's pretty powerful and capable, but she has to give us an explanation for this!

(Unify has to give us an explanation as well!)

The discussion morphed from praises to accusations, and many were concerned with their privacy.

A horde of netizens mass-tweeted on Charmine's feed as they pestered for an explanation on her actions.

Charmine frowned. It went so well for a good while, so how did it change into such a mess? The discussion should have remained on Scarlet's topic with the facts and everyone's logical reasoning. Not only did they turn to Charmine, but they also accused her for her actions as well! 1

It was apparent that someone had tampered with the course of the discussion! Who was it?

Meanwhile, at the Houston mansion...

McKenzie laid in her private salon, pampered with the in-house chief-beautician who gave her a whole body treatment.

Miranda walked into the room. “McKenzie, I’ve made up the discussion, and Omega users will receive the notification soon enough. Soon, they’ll all know about how Charmine abused her wealth for ill-conduct!”

A mocking smirk appeared on McKenzie’s lips, her features arrogant and revengeful.

1

What had gotten into Charmine’s head that made her think she could match her? Charmine would have to pay the price for terrifying her with the pythons! People these days hated the wealthy who used their fortune as they pleased. Since the matter at hand involved users’ privacy, it was likely to turn into a criminal offence! All it would take was a few tricks up McKenzie’s sleeve to put Charmine in jail!

Hah! Charmine should have known she was no match for her!

On the same day, Omega users received another system notification. The headlines were originally filled with the news of Scarlet and Johnson, yet by evening, the headline turned into, (Charmine does whatever she wants!

Although Charmine had many supporters, the wind of the discussion was led by the raging keyboard warriors. The situation got messier as it spiraled into chaos.

Chapter 303

Charmine removed her heels upon her return to the Bailey mansion.

Anthony turned to look at her. “If you need any help, just say the word,” said Anthony, voice mesmerizingly husky.

His loving tone was full of concern. Just as Charmine was about to speak, her phone rang.

(Jeremy Richard) stated the caller ID.

She accepted the call and was greeted with Jeremy’s voice as he reported, ‘Vice President Jordan, due to the increasing criticism, we’ll have to announce your identity to the public. Is that okay with you?’

Charmine smiled. “What else is there to do if I said no?”

“I’ll take that as a yes, Vice President Jordan. I’ll sort it out right away.” Jeremy hung up right after that.

Anthony's eyes narrowed. Vice President Jordan? So she was the Unify Phone Company's vice president? Anthony assumed that Charmine had links to the company, but he never expected her to be their vice president! 1

What else was there to this woman he had yet found out?

When she noticed Anthony and Chris' questioning gazes, Charmine explained nonchalantly, "Before Wendy Morrison's retirement, Unify searched for someone to take over her post. Coincidentally, I helped them secure the patent for the fifth-generation wireless technology, allowing Unify to become the first company in the industry to launch the cellular technology package."

Charmine spoke with a lackluster, uninterested tone as though the matter was not of importance.

Chris' eyes twinkled as he gazed at Charmine adoringly. "Mommy is awesome! Mommy is just as awesome as Daddy! Last year, Daddy led his research and development team to develop the first complete fifth-generation wireless smart home system!"

"Is it OBN?" asked Charmine.

Chris nodded enthusiastically. "Yes, yes! How did you know? Do you know how awesome that is? It's a smart home system! It can automatically detect upcoming wind and rain, shutting windows automatically! It can also make breakfast, close curtains, and clean up dust in the house! Most importantly, if a fire breaks out, the system could automatically extinguish the fire!" Chris beamed with pride. 2

Charmine glanced at Anthony. That was her first time understanding his scope of work after living with him for so long, and it so happened that she was genuinely interested in the smart home system.

"I did give the Smart Home System a try before," started Charmine, "but many things needed to be done through the phone manually, which I found rather troublesome. There was a time when I was watching the television, and there was no remote control nor the on or off button, so I have to control it using the phone app. Coincidentally, I couldn't find my phone at that moment, which was annoying. Another major drawback is that since everything can be controlled through the network, hackers can easily control the house once they get a hold of the system, including opening the windows and doors. I wonder if OBN was able to solve these issues?"

"What do you think, Ms. Jordan?" Anthony asked with an unspeakable hint of maturity in his tone.

Charmine frowned. With such a tone, could it be that he had already resolved these issues? Was the domestic smart home system developed so well already?

Seeing that the both of them finally had a common topic to talk about, Chris grinned and silently excused himself from the room.

Anthony walked to the sofa and poured Charmine a glass of water, inviting her to sit. After she was seated. Anthony continued, "OBN had already taken into account the problems you're concerned about. Last year, we spent the year evolving the system into the sixth-generation artificial intelligent system, no longer relying on controllers or the phone app.

"It relies mainly on the in-built artificial intelligence, turning lights on and off automatically. It could also be controlled by a person's voice, recognizing almost a thousand languages, covering various dialects. As for safety and security, well... Even if OBN is compromised, no other system in the world would survive."

Chapter 304

Anthony's words were articulated with precise determination. He spoke, at ease, with a handsome and matured confidence that only a successful gentleman could execute.

Charmine looked at him as a strange sense of admiration aroused in her. Throughout the years. She had achieved so many things in various fields that no one she met impressed her.

However...

She eyed her surroundings carefully. "If it's as great as you claimed it to be, why isn't the system installed in this mansion?" 1

Anthony's face sank a little; it was as though he hid something. After a moment, he picked up the glass on the coffee table and beckoned the butler to come.

The butler instantly brought the matte black machine over and placed it on the coffee table. "Hello, Kitty," said the butler.

The machine responded instantly, "May I help you, Uncle?"

Its voice was gentle and cute, downright lovable.

The butler then turned his gaze to Charmine. "Ms. Jordan, why don't you give it a go?"

Charmine's gaze landed on the machine. "Hello, Kitty."

The machine answered, "May I help you, Mommy?"

Charmine frowned as realization dawned on her.

With a look from Anthony, the butler took Kitty away as both Anthony and Charmine were left alone once more.

Anthony said to Charmine, "OBN's Smart Home System is known as Kitty, and we aim to provide an experience of having a pet at home. In order to further lessen the distance between the system and its users, Kitty is able to recognize the users' voices, calling the oldest man in the house 'Grandpa', and the

. As for the hosts of the house, it could call them 'Daddy' and 'Mommy'

"I brought Chris to the experiment house last year, and he saw how other children came with their parents while his Kitty only called out 'Daddy'. He got too upset and had a seizure afterward... We stopped using it after that."

Charmine felt a sharp pain to her heart as she listened to Anthony's explanation. She could imagine many children inside the big experiment house, all of them accompanied by their parents except for Momo...

The other children's Kitty could call out 'Mommy' while Chris' Kitty never uttered that title. He must have been very sad. 1

Charmine's eyes narrowed as she asked, "Why didn't you get in touch with the surrogate mother? She gave birth to the boy, and the Baileys had so much to offer anyway. It's highly likely that she'd come back and take care of Momo."

Furthermore, Chris' actual mother would be able to get along well with him.

Anthony's own eyes narrowed at the thought. If only Chris was given birth to by a surrogate mother...

He felt strangely worried when he recalled the night from five years ago. Would Charmine accept him if she found out that he had once taken advantage of a woman? Charmine held a strong detest toward rapists, after all. O

After a moment of silence, he said, "It was all done in secrecy back then, thus there's no way to trace her. Also, those who're willing to be surrogate mothers are of lower status, and the Baileys won't accept them."

Charmine's lips formed into a tight line; Anthony had a solid point. With how Senior Bailey behaved, it was likely for him and his wife to make it hard for that woman, if not kill her.

It would have been much more devastating if Chris was to lose his actual Mommy right after reconciling with her. Yet... Was this the entire truth? Why did she feel like Anthony seemed rather odd whenever they talked about this matter?

All of a sudden, Luke barged in hastily.

"Boss, the Walker gang escaped!"

What? Escaped?

Anthony's face darkened. His Bailey Ace team had performed exceptionally well without a fault even once. How could someone even outsmart his team?

Chapter 305

Charmine frowned as she looked at Anthony suspiciously. "You attacked the Walker gang?"

Anthony nodded. "I can't just sit still when you're troubled."

All she wanted to do was find the man's identity, yet Anthony decided to destroy the entire Walker gang?

Worse still, the Walker gang evaded Anthony's team!

"We've been gearing ourselves for the past few days," began Luke, "but somehow, word about it broke out. When we rushed to their base, everyone had left and moved every evidence and document."

Charmine frowned. So, the Walker gang found out about their ambush plan?

On a second thought, the Baileys were in sight, and Anthony even defended her publicly. It did not matter if it was McKenzie, Julian, or even Tiffany; it was possible they have found out about their relationship. With the escape of the Walker gang, things got more complicated.

"Don't worry," assured Anthony, "I'll fix this for you."

With that, he ordered Luke, "I don't care what it takes. Find all of the Walkers!"

Anthony's voice was thick with authority and power.

"Yes, Sir." Luke turned to leave.

"Wait!" Charmine quickly called out. "Don't make a scene this time, do it in the dark. Just get hold of Rex Walker."

"Yes, Madam." With that, Luke finally left.

Anthony's gaze hardened at the name. Rex Walker? Was that the name of the man who took advantage of Charmine?

Argh!

A new threat appeared on his already chilly face. On the same day, the Bailey Corporation gave out a warning notice to all their business partners and manufacturers: Whoever had links or business relations with the man named Rex Walker would be fired instantly with three times the penalty!

Anthony had always been decisive; it did not matter if the man had offended him personally or not.

It was only then when Luke recalled one additional information he had forgotten to tell Anthony, thus he texted:

Mr. Bailey, our investigation states that the source of the criticisms to shut down Rising Hawk was started by Kelly Milan.)

Anthony replied: (Two days. Make Hollyoak disappear.)

Charmine was completely oblivious to those exchanges; she busied herself with dealing with her issues. Unify Phone Company's president later on announced a disclosure: (Charmine Jordan, as Unify Phone Company's vice president, had followed the strict protocol through and through. Since a fraud case was involved, Unify had the rights to cooperate with the court and police, including going through call recordings.)

In other words, Charmine did everything according to protocol and regulations. Wait... Charmine was Unify Phone Company's vice president?!

The internet turned into a mass of chaos.

(OMG! What's going on now?! The Diamond Boss is also Unify Phone Company's vice president?)

(Why does this feel more like a movie than reality!?)

[What else do we not know about Boss Jordan?)

(She's in charge of the Diamond Company, Ohly diamond shop, her modeling career, and also the VP of the Unify?! She's an all-rounded genius!)

[Am I the only one who noticed something off here? The so-called genius McKenzie was the one who abused her power to send out system texts to all Omega users!]

Chapter 306

With that last question, everyone's attention shifted.

(That's right! Just because we purchased Ome phones doesn't mean they can simply send us system texts! Also, the texts were ones that could not be crossed out or ignored. They were forcing us to read the texts!)

[Didn't McKenzie say something like Scarlet and Charmine being shameless, and claimed to speak up for her best friend Gigi? But abusing her power is still wrong, isn't it?)

(Actually, I don't think McKenzie was simply speaking up for her best friend. It seems that she was intentionally criticizing Charmine and RisingHawk.)

(Exactly! Just as we were all praising Boss Jordan, the discussion page was suddenly flooded with keyboard warriors attacking Boss Jordan. If someone didn't set that all up, I'll live stream myself eating sh

[Both of them are stellar entrepreneurs. Perhaps McKenzie couldn't stand another woman as great as herself?]

As the saying goes, 'One mountain cannot have two tigers residing in it.' Based on my observation, I'm certain that McKenzie and Charmine had a history!]

[Hahaha! McKenzie must've thought that Charmine was a nouveau riche, a useless leader with money. She never expected Charmine to be a real, genuine boss, huh? Haha!)

The netizens typed away as they were entertained by the fight between the two women. In just one day, the comments had gone up to a few hundreds and thousands!

Charmine's lips quirked into a half-smile. They could pay for the keyboard warriors, but so could she!

Did McKenzie not call for a fight? Well, she should have seen that coming!

The fun did not stop there. On the next morning when the stock market opened, Omega's stocks plummeted as they lost tens of billions! Many influencers were furious by McKenzie's actions, and they conducted live-streams as they voiced their anger toward Omega. Many people also turned against McKenzie as they questioned her integrity and morality. She was no longer the well-worshipped, exquisite and flawless 'princess' she once was.

Meanwhile, another company that suffered greatly was Hollyoak.

Johnson-as HollyOak's president-had done such a despicable act, yet Kelly Milan still went out on her way and attacked RisingHawk. Once the truth was revealed, the entire

company received backlash left and right. The artists who had tried to terminate their contract with Hollyoak could not stand it anymore; they genuinely liked Charmine and wanted to sign with RisingHawk instead. Therefore, they gathered outside the Entertainment Industry Association, asking the chairman for arbitration. 1

Kelly sought out for the chairman of the Association in advance, since she had a good relationship with the chairman. However, the chairman not only ignored her and refused to help, but the association even assisted the artists to terminate their contracts successfully. 2

With that, Hollyoak became a desolated entertainment company, its glory taken away and eventually forced to close down.

Kelly lost all bearings and sanity. She crashed and destroyed many things in the company in rage, which earned her threats from the people, and she had no choice but to return to her country.

Charmine learned everything when she had breakfast with Chris and Anthony. She was eating as she read

the text message from Eric:

(Hollyoak has closed down. All of its artists have signed with Rising Hawk.)

Charmine frowned. Hollyoak shut down so soon, in just one day? Suspiciously, she turned her gaze and eyed Anthony. "Mr. Bailey, is this one of your doings again?"

"Just a small matter," said Anthony nonchalantly as he picked up a portion of the salmon and put it on Charmine's plate.

Charmine's heart raced involuntarily. This man knew exactly how to fasten her heart, every time!

Also, with him helping her every time, it made her seem rather incapable...

Her eyes flickered as she asked, "Is McKenzie coming over today?"

"Yes! I even heard that she asked for a prescribed medicine or something that would repel pythons. She's trying to get closer to Daddy!" said a pouting Chris, his frustrations evident on his face. 1

Why did that Auntie want to ruin the relationship between his Daddy and Mommy? Bad Auntie!

Charmine merely ruffled his hair. "Don't worry, I've a way to make her back off from your Daddy." 1

“Really?” chirped Chris, his eyes sparkling like the stars in the sky. Charmine’s lips curled into a perfect smirk. “Really. Let me handle her when she comes.”

Chapter 307

Charmine spoke with so much confidence. With that, she laid out her plan and added, “Momo will have to wait in the study room. You can’t peek at us, alright? The plan will fail if you do, and Mommy doesn’t want you to see something you shouldn’t be seeing? Okay?”

“Alrighty! Momo promise to complete the mission!” Chris saluted.

As long as the bad Auntie could leave him alone, he would do anything including staying inside the study room for half of the day!

Chris went to his study room after the meal, looked after by the butler.

Charmine said to Anthony, “I’ll have to sacrifice myself for the plan to work today. You have to keep in mind that this is all an act, alright?”

Sacrifice herself? Just an act?

Anthony frowned. What was the plan?

Charmine explained, “McKenzie likes you due to your good reputation of being chaste. Among all of the wealthy men in the world, you’re still considered pure unlike those who have countless mistresses. A genius entrepreneur like McKenzie is born arrogant, and it’s only natural she won’t be able to accept her man having many mistresses around, flirting with different women. Therefore, I’ll ask a few ladies to come over later. As long as you pretend to be flirtatious, she’ll think more lowly of you.” 2.

Pretend to be flirtatious?

Anthony frowned. “I’m afraid I can’t do that.”

Whenever he saw inappropriate women, he would get so uncomfortable and avoided them with every fiber of his being. How could he even flirt with them?

“Don’t worry. Since you’ve helped me so much, I’ll take the lead. The others will only massage your shoulders and legs,” added Charmine.

Anthony’s gaze narrowed. Charmine would take the lead? So the person he should flirt with was...her?

“Okay.”

One word. Straightforward and unhesitant.

This man... Did he have to act so oddly?

She took out her phone and made a phone call. She reminded him, "Right, don't expect too much from this. This is just the first step, and it won't be enough to ruin her impression of you completely. We'll think of the next step based on her reaction today."

"Okay." Anthony had no qualms to that. 1

Charmine felt like he was looking forward to it, but after careful inspection, his face was calm and elegant as always, and she could not tell what he was feeling.

Whatever! She would just help him this once! Although McKenzie's family background was good enough for Anthony, her attitude was bad. Charmine could not stand a woman like her as Chris' mother, so she would help them get rid of her.

Like usual, McKenzie arrived at the Bailey mansion in her luxury car. She looked up to the tall mansion, her eyes filled with grandeur and malice. How dare Charmine attacked her on the internet? McKenzie

became the object of everyone's criticisms as Omega suffered huge losses in their shares. She had to make this woman pay! As long as she could get hold of Anthony and Chris' hearts, they could get engaged by the end of the month during Senior Bailey's birthday celebration. She would then become Anthony's wife, the First Lady of the wealthiest man in Burlington!

By then, she could easily strangle a loser like Charmine effortlessly. So, Charmine wanted to snatch her man from her? Well, dream on!

She fixed her composure, took out a scented sachet, and walked into the mansion. She expected Chris to bring her to the pythons again, but... The mansion was strangely empty, and nobody was around. 1

Some maids rushed to the backyard as if running away from something, but McKenzie quickly pulled on one of them by their arm. "Where's Anthony? Where's Momo?"

"Oh! Momo is having a lesson, and Mr. Bailey... He... He..." The maid stuttered with an embarrassed look on her face. It was then when the laughter of women resonated from upstairs.

Chapter 308

She rushed up the stairs as the maid tried to stop her. "Ms. Houston, Mr. Bailey said nobody should disturb him-"

“Get off of me!” McKenzie swung her hand away and marched upstairs.

The laughter became clearer and louder. The door was left ajar when she arrived right outside the room, and inside..

Anthony reclined languidly on the grey sofa as he was surrounded by a group of women that pampered him altogether. Some massaged his shoulder, some were on his feet, while some served him tea. Charmine, on the other hand, was dressed in a black lace dress as she sat on his lap. She had a string of grapes at hand as she fed Anthony one grape after another. 1

Anthony ate the grapes she fed him, his hands on her waist as their bodies were practically glued to one another! The scene was as erotic as one could imagine!

McKenzie staggered a few steps back as she felt a flaming rage and jealousy in her.

How... How could it be?

She had always thought that Anthony was a chaste and good man who kept his distance from other women, perfect like a prince! Yet...

He had so many women surrounding him!

Meanwhile, Charmine fell into Anthony's arms and seductively spoke, “Anthony, do you like grapes?”

Her body was soft, her heat and breath caressing his face. Anthony was not used to having surrounded by so many women, so he naturally exuded a distant, icy aura. After he heard her voice, however, Anthony could not help but react to Charmine.

All he could see was Charmine; it was as though everything and everyone vanished. He stared into her eyes and said, “I like you more.”

His voice was hoarse and sexy. Whether he intended or not, his tongue brushed on her finger when he ate the grapes she fed him.

Charmine felt a strange electricity that jolted her fingertips as her heart skipped a beat or two.

This man! He was hesitant just moments ago, but he suddenly overpowered her! She instinctively wanted to push him away, but she knew that McKenzie was watching, so she could only stick to the script and asked, “Will you marry me then? Will you take the responsibility? I want to be your wife, I want to be known as Mrs. Bailey, and...”

Her voice was extremely gentle. Anthony looked at her with a tender and loving gaze. “As you wish. Anytime.”

His tone was serious and did not seem like a joke at all. With that, he raised her chin and whispered, "But, I'll have to examine you first."

With that, he lowered his head and kissed her on the lips, deeply and passionately. 1

Charmine's mind went blank instantly, and her body stiffened.

She asked Anthony to pretend and be flirtatious, but Charmine did not ask him to kiss her! The kiss... It was too passionate!

She could only push him away jokingly and smiled. "Aw, this is boring! Anthony baby, let's do it all

together!" Charmine then gestured to the ladies, and they all stood up and started removing their clothes. Charmine, too, started removing her own. McKenzie was mortified at the sight. She never imagined Charmine would stoop so low! Not just that, but even Anthony liked that! At the thought of what would entail, McKenzie felt nauseous and disgusted. She marched out of the hallway.

No... She needed air! She could not accept what she saw!

Charmine's lips curled into a satisfied smirk when she heard McKenzie's hurried steps away from the door, and she stopped removing her clothes. However, out of the blue, a strong set of arms pulled her as she instantly fell into Anthony's arms.

Chapter 309

"Out," snapped Anthony to the other women around him.

"Yes, Sir."

The women stood up in an instant and left from the back door of the room to hide, all to evade McKenzie.

With that, only Charmine and Anthony were left in the room. Charmine sensed the strange shift in the atmosphere and got up to leave, but Anthony quickly wound his arms around her waist and said, "Didn't you say you wanted to be my wife earlier?"

His low and suggestive timber could cause a heart to throb wildly without relief.

He then tightened his grip and pulled her closer in his arms. Charmine, a stranger to such feelings, attempted to desperately push him away, but it only hardened his gaze with desire the moment her palms spread at his chest.

Her touch on his chest ignited him like an inferno as his temperature skyrocketed. As Charmine struggled to free herself from his grasp, an authoritative and demanding voice snapped, "Don't move!"

Anthony growled, his tone thick with wanton and painfully held-back desire.

His command petrified Charmine instantly as she ceased to move. He would always lose his calm whenever she was this close to him, and this was not the first to happen! Was it that had to resist her? 1

"Damn it...! Wait here." Anthony stood up and placed her on the sofa before he walked to the bathroom.

He would lose the last bit of restraint and calmness he had if he did not let her go.

Before Charmine could react, she heard a loud slam as the bathroom door closed, followed by the sound of water inside.

So quick? Anthony might have yet removed his clothes.

Charmine's mind wandered at the thought of Anthony in the shower, his half-transparent damp white shirt that clung to his flesh, his chest and abs visible...

Cough, cough! What was she thinking? When had she turned to a star-struck admirer of his? She was free from his grasp, and she should be out on her way!

With that, Charmine left the room right away.

The room was empty by the time Anthony came out of the shower, and his eyes dulled at the sight.

He asked her to wait, yet she ran away?

She decided to leave once McKenzie had left? Was it all nothing but an act? Anthony grew displeased and distraught with the thought.

Everything was just an act. Why was it that no other woman but Charmine would make him lose his mind? Why was it that he easily lost the self-control he was once proud of, just with a single touch from her? 1

He experienced this only once before, and that was five years ago.

What was the reason?

Meanwhile...

McKenzie got into her car, still unable to compose herself after the fiasco she saw. She came from a long line of educated background and was brought up in upper-class society. She had never seen anything like that in her life!

She always thought Anthony was a man of class just like herself, but she never thought...

This feeling was equivalent to having a well-loved idol turning into a drug-addict... It should not have happened!

Miranda sat by her side and, with a soft voice, asked, "McKenzie, are you still getting engaged with Boss Bailey?"

Chapter 310

McKenzie's nails dug deep into her palms. She was a perfectly chaste lady with a good reputation, and she had it in mind that her future husband would share such a character.

Still...

While it seemed like a trap both Anthony and Charmine had laid out, their relationship did not seem humdrum either. With the way Anthony held Charmine in his arms and even kissed her, they must have slept together!

McKenzie had an obsession with cleanliness. How could she accept a man who had slept with another woman? 2

She massaged her temple and muttered, "I need some time, so wait for my instruction in the next few days. Also, do something about Charmine."

Did that idiot Charmine want to marry into the Bailey family? Hah! Once the Bailey family found out, McKenzie would not even need to lift a finger to get rid of her!

"Okay." Miranda nodded and typed away on her phone.

The midsummer sky turned gloomy after a gust of wind, as though downpour was coming. Someone lurked around the Bailey mansion as they waited for the opportunity to take photos.

Concurrently..

Charmine received a call from Kay. "Boss Jordan, someone is trying to take photos of you and Boss Bailey together."

Charmine frowned. That fast?

It seemed McKenzie was trying to use Senior Bailey to attack her.

Still, did McKenzie think that a photo of her was so easy to get? Hah!

“Keep an eye on them,” ordered Charmine, “and keep me updated.” Charmine hung up the call, her gaze hardened right after.

She did not need to leave the mansion anyway as she had nothing planned for two days. That person could lurk and wait all they wanted!

The hot weather only made the task harder to accomplish. The spy Miranda hired was exposed to the burning sun during the day and exposed to the pesky mosquitoes at night without any picture of Charmine!

In the blink of an eye, Horizon Night was just one day away. The Horizon organizing team had funded the project with a huge sum as they aimed to promote the traditional culture. 1

Charmine, as she wanted to spend time with Chris, gave every opportunity to the artists signed with her and retreated from the spotlight.

However, the evening before the big day, Rio suddenly called her, “It’s bad! We can’t find Scarlet!”

“Can’t find Scarlet?” Charmine’s eyes narrowed as she asked calmly, “Have you checked everywhere?”

“Yeah! We lost touch with her in the afternoon. Her manager and assistants had looked for her everywhere with no luck. Also, her phone was turned off. It’s strange,” explained Rio.

Charmine frowned. Of all days, Scarlet went missing on this day?

Scarlet seemed to be in a good mood as of late. Charmine had also provided the best proposal to her, which would be able to let her shine during the show tomorrow. She had been through the worst; it was strange for Scarlet to go missing at this moment.

Eventually, a thought occurred to Charmine as she quickly ordered, “Look for Johnson Spencer. Go to places where you could find him! Also, notify Eric and Kay about this.”

“Okay!” Rio picked up the oddity in this case and worked on it right away.

Charmine looked at the sky; it was only in the evening but the sky was filled with dark clouds. It would surely rain heavily. If they failed to find Scarlet quickly, things would get much rougher when it rained. 1

It was not just about the high liquidated damage fee to pay Horizon. With Johnson's stance, who knew what he would do to Scarlet! If anything was to happen...

Chapter 311 "I have to go out. Sleep early, and don't wait for me," said Charmine to Chris and Anthony who were on the sofa.

"I want to go with Mommy!" Chris stood up instantly.

Anthony, too, looked at her. "Where are you headed to? I'll drive you there."

Both of them showed their concern, and it was apparent that they cared for her.

Charmine felt warmth that blossomed at her chest. "No need. I'm just looking for someone, and someone's outside waiting to take photos of us."

If it was just Charmine that was taken photos of, she could still claim that she visited the Baileys for a meeting. Things would only get messier if both her and Anthony were seen together.

"Don't worry," assured Anthony, "I have my ways."

Anthony then turned to Chris. "Go to bed and wait for us to come home. It's raining tonight, so you can't go out."

'It's raining tonight' was emphasized strongly. Chris' eyes darted as he suddenly understood what his father meant

It was the perfect time for both of them to improve their relationship as it rained. Daddy and Mommy would be able to get along well if he stayed behind!

Chris nodded hastily. "Alrighty! Momo can stay home. Daddy has to protect Mommy, help Mommy find her friend, and then bring Mommy home."

"Hmph." Anthony ruffled his hair before he turned to Charmine. "Follow me," he spoke.

Anthony walked away from the main entrance and Charmine, left without a choice, could only follow him.

They walked through a hallway and stopped in front of a lift, seemingly much larger than the rest. Anthony pressed on the call button and the door gradually opened.

The space in the lift was at least 30 square meters wide. Furthermore, a matte black luxury car rested inside the lift, and the icy walls of the lift made the luxury car look polished and perfectly developed. 1.

Anthony opened the door to the passenger seat for Charmine, just like the gentleman he always was, but Charmine walked into the car without noticing much. She did not realize how her relationship with Anthony had changed completely. She used to always keep her distance with him inside the car, yet somehow, they seemed much like husband-and-wife for the past few days.

Anthony looked at her lovingly before taking his driver's seat. As the car doors shut, the lift's door closed automatically. The lift sank lower to the basement.

Chapter 312 Anthony took a glance at the garage, he warned in a low voice, "For safety's purpose, it's best if you lay down." "Lay down?" Charmine frowned at his comment, but before she could get a word in the matter...

As Anthony pulled at her arm, Charmine instantly fell into his thighs and was greeted by Anthony's clean, masculine scent. 1

Still, her position was too abnormal!

Charmine struggled to get up, but Anthony warned, "Someone's there."

Two words, uttered curtly yet gravely, and Charmine stopped struggling after that.

The tinted windows of Anthony's car were no match for the paparazzi's more recent, new cameras as their shots could bypass windows. If the paparazzo managed to get a shot of Charmine sitting next to Anthony, McKenzie would show it to Senior Bailey.

Charmine had no choice but to lay on Anthony's thigh. He pressed on the gas pedal and raced out of the garage.

The person lurking outside the mansion frowned. The car came out of another garage? What was that about?

Someone else had to be in that car! The man focused the camera on the car, ready to take a shot, but it startled him to see only Anthony in the car.

How strange. Why was Charmine not there? Why else would Anthony come out from a different garage?

By then, the car went full speed ahead as it zipped on the main road. The golden dim light glinted on the car. With no one trailing after them, Charmine started to get up...only to find her hair was stuck!

She yelped in pain and tried to tug at Anthony's zipper, and he had no choice but to pull over by a tree. 1

"Don't move, let me do it."

Utterly embarrassed, Charmine let go of her hand,

Anthony carefully moved her hair to one side, only to realize that a strand of hair was stuck at the zipper of his pants. He slowly removed the stuck strand, but not knowing what he was doing, more strands of hair got entangled and were all stuck inside.

Charmine felt her neck turning sore as she held her head up to keep the distance, thus she moved her head slightly to relax the muscle. "How is it?" Anthony made a soft sound of reply. "Bear with me."

Chapter 313 It was only when Charmine eased up that she saw the awkward look on Anthony's face.

"It's just hair anyway," blurted Charmine. "Nevermind!"

Anthony fell silent. She was right; it was only her hair that was stuck.

He asked, "Where do we go now?"

"Let's see..." Charmine took out her phone to read the information Kay sent to her. The map indicated the few locations Johnson Spencer would go to as he had a few properties in the area.

She texted Kay, [I'll search around in this area, so you can go to another area. Be careful.]

Kay: [Noted]

Charmine kept her phone and said to Anthony, "Let's go to Jubilee District."

Jubilee District was an older, worn-out district. If Johnson was to do anything, this place was the likeliest place to do it to Scarlet.

Anthony drove in the direction given and pulled over by a house. Charmine noted the lack of light in the house-it was pitch dark-though she would not rule out the chance of them upstairs. "Wait for me here,"

she said to Anthony, "I'll have a look."

"No, stay here." Anthony took out a small spying drone and, after assembling the parts, controlled the drone and flew it into the house compound.

"What's that?" Charmine frowned.

"A spying drone that could detect body heat. It could sense if anyone's around," explained Anthony as he focused on the drone entirely.

The drone made way for things that were in its way and flew directly into Johnson's house. After that, it automatically searched the house.

Charmine was impressed as she watched the data loaded into the screen. She thought that the products she invented all those years were advanced, but little did she expect Anthony to possess electronics way more advanced than hers!

That was the indisputable Bailey Corporation, after all.

It was only after a while did the drone returned, and the data it collected showed that no one was in the house.

The pair went to search the next house down the street and used the same method, yet they emerged empty-handed after clearing all the houses in the area.

Kay led his men to search in all alleys and warehouses, and he eventually texted Charmine with a simples Nothing.)

The situation seemed like it hit a dead end.

Charmine's face became duller. Johnson and Scarlet seemed to have vanished just like that, untraceable. Would they ever find them at that rate?

A sudden flash of lightning struck the skies as a loud thunder followed. Rain was coming... It would be much worse if it started raining!

If Johnson did anything to Scarlet, the rain would wash away most of the evidence. Charmine grew

uneasy at the thought.

Watching her frown, Anthony took out his phone and was ready to contact his Ace Team when a pink compact car drove by and pulled up beside them.

The window rolled down, and the woman at the driver's seat poked out her head. It was Gai.

Charmine lowered her window. "Why are you here?" she asked. "Follow me if you want to find them."

Chapter 314

With that. Gigi pressed on the gas pedal and raced away while Anthony reignited his engine and followed

her.

The cars went toward the city, but before they entered the city gates, the cars stopped in front of a few buildings.

Gigi got down from her car and walked toward the alley. Charmine and Anthony followed swiftly behind her.

The thunderstorms rumbled through the skies with occasional bolts of lightning spearing the heavens. It was only with those bolts could Charmine see a ruined area with a river laid behind the buildings through the alley

It was hard to believe that there was such a run-down area in Burlington, left underdeveloped. The buildings looked well-maintained upfront, yet hidden behind those buildings was an abandoned area with untrimmed, overgrown grass.

Johnson was in this area, Charmine could feel it.

As expected, there was an abandoned bridge by the river that led to a hub with a metal door. Walking closer, they could hear voices coming from inside.

Charmine frowned. No wonder Kay and his men could not find this even after they had searched the entire perimeter. Who would have thought there was such a place behind all these buildings.

She said to Gigi, "Wait for me here. I'll go and have a look."

"No. I'm involved in this, and I want to solve this myself as closure. Only come to help me when you see! can't fight back."

With that, Gigi walked toward the bridge.

Lightning and thunderstorms filled the air, but Gigi's small and frail figure remained determined. Charmine could feel a change in her; Gigi was no longer the innocent, next-door-neighbor kind of girl as rumored. She turned into a warrior, ready to seize back her land.

Charmine stayed back and stood behind a tree as she looked on. Anthony stood next to her, ready for action.

The hub was a dozen squares wide, rectangularly shaped. It used to be a shelter for the homeless, but as more people started living in it, they added a door to shield them from the rain.

The narrow space was dimly lit by a candle.

Kneeling on the floor, both of Scarlet's hands and legs were tied up. She shot Johnson a pitiable gaze with reddened eyes. "Johnson Spencer, please don't repeat this! This is illegal, and you'll be put to jail-"

"Shut your mouth!" Johnson strangled her by her neck as he growled, "Even if they don't, you'd have Charmine hiring you attorneys, and I'd still be in jail anyway! What do I have left of when I come out of jail? What would I be left with?! Have I not been nice to you all these years? Why are you so heartless and evil?!"

"Me? Heartless? Evil?" Scarlet choked as her face flushed from his grip. "I gave you all of my youth, and I'd borrow money for you whenever you needed money, even if I don't have them!

"Not only did you make me out to be a third-wheeler, but you piled all the blame unto me! Have you

considered my feelings at all? Who's the heartless one..."

Her voice was hoarse and hurt, filled with despair.

With fury overwhelming him, Johnson roared, 'That's because you're an idiot! You're the one who was willing to be with me! You did this to yourself!

"I don't have time to waste with you here. If you don't withdraw the charge, I'll destroy you!"

With that, he pushed Scarlet away violently and picked up the burnt iron by the side. The iron was burnt red with coal, and hot air was emitted from it.

Scarlet's eyes were filled with betrayal and hurt. He called her stupid and said that she did it all to herself...

Johnson had the heart to do what she thought he would do?

Was this the ending she deserved after all those years of loving him?

Johnson got closer to her one step at a time, and the burnt iron in his hand was close enough to touch her face.

Chapter 315

Scarlet shut her eyes tightly out of fear, already prepared for the sharp burn.

All of a sudden...

Bam!

The metal door was kicked open.

It was Gigi, along with the calling of the storm, as she rushed into the hub. Johnson was shocked. "Gigi, why... Why are you here?"

Scarlet was equally astounded. How was Gigi able to find them in such a run-down area?

Gigi scoffed mockingly, "Johnson Spencer, do you remember the first time we met?"

Johnson's hand halted. That was seven years ago, and the crew came to this very area for backdrop. Gigi's pet dog ran into the hub and she had no choice but to follow it. Unluckily, she hurt her leg and fell into the river.

Johnson happened to be on his phone in the same area and, upon hearing the commotion, went and saved Gigi.

The thunder and lightning in the sky was just the same as it was on that day. The sky turned dark as rain fell from the sky, yet Johnson shielded her and brought her into this hub... 2

"Of course I remember," scoffed Johnson, "and why wouldn't I? You could've died if it wasn't for me, yet what have you done to me? What has your family done to me?"

"All these years, every one of you looked down on me, pressuring me! Giving me money like you're getting rid of a beggar! How dare you treat me like this for saving your life back then?"

"If I had a chance, I wouldn't have saved you! I'd rather watch you die!"

Disbelief ran through Gigi's body like an electric shock as she jolted.

All those years, they had given him a large sum of money. Her parents had treated him well and asked him -kindly-to treat her better!

Sadly, Johnson held onto the grudge.

The Johnson in the past was a far cry from this: he hugged her, took care of her, and resuscitated her. In order to help her breathe, he unbuttoned her blouse. When Gigi eventually woke up as the rain poured outside the hub, Johnson promised, "I'll take care of you for the rest of your life."

Johnson apparently forgot that, and he changed completely...

Heart shattered into pieces, Gigi glared at him. "I never thought you'd think of me that way. We've never looked down on you, nor thought of you as a beggar."

"No matter what happened to you, we always tried to help you. How could you think of us that way? Now, calm down, and don't repeat your mistakes. Let her go," coaxed Gigi.

"Huh? Let her go? And what, I'll go to jail while you'll get all of my assets? Don't you dare! Get out of my sight! You don't have a say here!" Johnson launched at Scarlet and grabbed her by the neck while his other hand pointed the burnt iron toward her eyes.

"Scarlet Hoffman! Call the court right now, and tell them you want to withdraw your charges! Otherwise, I'll destroy you now and you'll be blind for the rest of your life!"

The red flaming iron got too close to Scarlet's eyes, and she could feel the heat that radiated from the iron.

The pale-faced, terrified Scarlet was scared stiff. Gigi, too, was terrified. Never did Gigi think she would see the day when her beloved would be deranged.

She called out, "No! Stop! I can promise that you'll still have your assets after you get out of jail. I won't use even a penny of it! We can even split our assets now! "I never thought of taking your money. Even when you've cheated, I never thought of suing you! promise!" Gigi yelled.

"I don't believe a word you're saying, and I won't go to jail! Get out of here! If you call the police, I'll have ways to kill you and your daughter. Like this!"

Johnson growled as he inched the iron closer to Scarlet's eye, the burning red iron almost close to her eye.

Suddenly...

In the darkness, a black dart zipped through the air and stabbed Johnson's arm right on target. The dart went right into his flesh as fresh blood spurted from his arm.

"Argh!"

Johnson cried out in pain, and the iron in his hand fell onto the ground with a loud clang. Scarlet and Gigi were stunned, not moving an inch. They had never seen such a bloody scene!

Chapter 316

"What are you staring at? Get him!"

Aloud and clear voice resonated in the air. Scarlet and Gigi turned to see Charmine watching them from

not far away.

Charmine's voice brought them out of their shock, and Gigi instantly rushed to sever the ropes that bound Scarlet with the dagger.

Johnson, on the other hand, rolled on the floor in pain. He tried to stand up and fight the ladies, but Gigi gave a harsh kick to his buttocks.

"This kick is for me! For being cheated by you after seven years of marriage!"

"Argh!" Johnson fell back to the ground once more.

Gigi then swung her feet to his face with vigor. "This kick is for my daughter. You made her lose her father at such a young age and hurt her feelings!"

"Argh! Stop! I'm going to kill you! I'll kill you!" Johnson jumped up from the ground and pulled out the dart in his arm, wanting to stab Gigi with it.

Gigi had the normal reaction of a girl, slower than him. In the blink of an eye, Johnson's dart was just a millimeter away from her.

Scarlet quickly jumped on him and held his hands. She lowered her head and bit into them, hard..

"GO...!" said Scarlet, her teeth still sank into Johnson's hand. "Run!"

"You got a death wish, that's for sure!" Johnson picked up the dart and was about to stab it on the back of Scarlet's head.

Gigi did not know where the surge of strength came from, but she raised her leg and kicked Johnson where the sun did not shine! 1

At that moment...

"Aargh!"

A loud cry soared up to the sky.

Johnson fell onto the ground, flat. He curled up in pain as the veins on his forehead protruded. 1

Gigi and Scarlet held each other and, after sharing a meaningful look, kicked Johnson in unison without stopping as they scowled, "Douchebag! Disgusting douchebag! Die!"

Their strength was greater than usual as they released all the anger built up in them over the past few days. They kicked and slammed their feet against him as though they were letting out of all the sacrifices they had made for him over the past seven years.

It was for closure.

Johnson cried out in agony, and he writhed until he passed out from the pain.

Charmine looked at the two women from behind, and her lips curled up. That was how women should be! Cheating men should be blamed and deserved to be punished!

She called Kay and Amy Lucas to come and take care of the rest. Johnson was dragged out of the hub.

Amy would send both Gigi and Scarlet home.

By the lamplight in front of the building, Scarlet bade Charmine goodbye. "Thank you, Ms. Jordan, for your help, but I'm not planning to return to the company tonight. I'd like to spend some time with Gigi."

Both women had a lot to share with one another.

Charmine agreed, "Go on, but don't sleep too late. The event starts tomorrow at ten in the morning."

"Don't worry, I won't disappoint you," promised Scarlet.

Just as she was about to leave, Scarlet realized something and asked, "Ms. Jordan, what happened to your hair? Why is a patch missing?"

On the other hand, Gigi stared at them wide-eyed, as though realization dawned on her. "Boss Bailey...your ... Your pants..."

A cluster of hair was stuck on his zipper.

The only explanation for that would be... Charmine's face flushed red instantly.

Chapter 317

Gigi and Scarlet could spot the strands of hair stuck to Anthony's zipper, even in the dark?

How embarrassing!

Gigi and Scarlet were shocked and surprised. Never did it occur to them that Charminé had a thing with Anthony!

Despite their bewilderment, both women had no time nor the courage to inquire about it, thus they remained silent on the matter.

Charmine gave Anthony a...

Scarlet noticed the shamefaced Charmine, thus she quickly reassured her, "Don't worry, Ms. Jordan, Mr. Bailey. We won't tell anyone, and we'll keep our mouths shut."

"Yes, sorry to have bothered you tonight. Please, carry on," added Gigi as she pulled at Scarlet to leave. Charmine and Anthony had to be annoyed after their business' was cut short due to the whole fiasco with Johnson...

No wonder Anthony had a straight face the entire time as he said not a single word.

"Drive," blurted Scarlet to Amy, "hurry!"

"Yes!" The car raced away, leaving Charmine and Anthony under the lamp post.

Charmine was rendered speechless.

Damn it! Clearing out the misunderstanding would be difficult. The two women had their heads in the gutter, and their expressions said it all... Charmine's reputation was ruined! She should have made Anthony remove the hair, and she should have helped him!

She helplessly turned to Anthony. "Well, now you have to fix this for me!"

"Fix what?" Anthony asked, his voice deep and magnetic.

"Fix the misunderstanding!" barked Charmine.

This was never her forte, and since Anthony claimed to be resourceful, he should know how to clear the situation... Right?

However, Anthony merely frowned. "What misunderstanding?"

V

"Damn you! You tricked me!" Anthony did not flinch as he let Charmine punch him.

Her strength was nothing to him that he did not even wince at her punches. He merely looked at her. "Charmine, you don't have to be embarrassed. Anyone who'd been in love would know that this is the most genuine and loving interaction between a couple."

His tone soothing and formal, as if he was making a philosophical statement.

With a roll of her eyes, Charmine scoffed, "Oh, and you know that very well?" Anthony's eyes darkened instantly, and Charmine felt like her heart was pricked at the shift of his expression, feeling uneasy.

Still... It made sense. Anthony was 28 years old. How could he be chaste? He must have had an ex girlfriend, and perhaps, more than one...

Charmine's emotions went rampant at the thought as her heart felt strangely uneasy, panicky.

She changed the subject, "It'll rain soon. Let's go home."

As she turned to walk to the car, Anthony grasped her arm as he raspily began, "Charmine, wait-"

"Hmph. Why're you telling me this." She swung his hand away nonchalantly and simply said, "I understand. We're all adults, after all, who hasn't done it before? Also, I'd laugh at you if you're still chaste. A man should act like a man."

Anthony's words hung heavily at his lips but he swallowed them back. Other than the incident five years ago, he was indeed still a chaste man. Would Charmine look down on him?

Did she really not care about his past and had zero interest in him? That had to be it; she was not curious about his past because she had no interest in him.. Out of the blue, a loud rumble of the thunderstorm was heard.

Chapter 318

Rain swiftly followed the thunder that rumbled in the sky,

The gates of the stratosphere opened and allowed the rain to fall. It turned into a downpour as water quickly pooled on the ground.

The unexpected rainstorm drenched both Charmine and Anthony, and Anthony-placing the conversation he had with her aside-quickly opened the door to the car for Charmine and said, "Get it!" 2

Charmine jumped into the car swiftly, though the rain was so heavy that she was drenched from head to toe. Anthony, who came into the car after her, was even more drenched as beads of water dripped from his head.

Charmine took some tissue and wiped her face before she handed some to Anthony.

Anthony accepted them and cleaned himself quickly before he drove away, headed for the mansion.

Charmine could have gotten sick with all that rainwater on her.

The car drove in the dark and rainy night as bullets of rainwater splattered against the car windows. It was loud and deafening.

Charmine looked out of the window as her brows tightened. The downpour reminded her of the night when she was sent to the airport five years ago. The rain was just as powerful, and she had just given birth to the dead baby, listless and powerless. Nobody cared for her, and everyone wanted her out of sight, sent to Africa as soon as possible.

1

Everything had changed since five years ago.

Her mind then wandered. What rights did Charmine have to feel uncomfortable about Anthony? At least h e had done it with his ex-girlfriend, while she...

Not only was she forcibly deflowered, but she even gave birth...

Suddenly, a loud sound brought her back to reality.

Hiss!

The car stopped as a guttural hissing sound was heard,

Anthony frowned. "It's flooding. Stay here, and don't move."

Anthony opened the door to get out of the car but was met with water gushing into his car and effectively flooded the insides.

Anthony made his way to her side, opened the door for Charmine, and carried her in his strong arms out o f the car before she could even react. Even with Anthony's height, the water level was up to his waist. His muscular arms raised her up as high as possible as he tried to keep her far above the water surface. Charmine could not even see his legs; it seemed as if they were both inside the river.

Anthony's eyes spotted the Royal Banquet Bar not far away, thus Anthony then said, "We'll get a room for tonight."

It was not a question; it was a statement.

Charmine's heart skipped a beat when she heard that line, get a room'. Getting a room with him at such a late hour at night? While they had slept on the same bed, it would not b e a hassle if they had two rooms...

However...

Charmine looked around and noted that no other hotels were around them except Royal Banquet Bar, and Charmine instantly recalled how Tiffany-in that incident from five years ago-asked her to go to Royal Banquet Bar. She remembered that there was no room in there.

“The hotel closest to here is the Phoenix Hotel,” said Charmine, “but it’ll take a while to get there.”

“Don’t worry, there’s a room in there,” assured Anthony as he carried her in his arms and made his way to Royal Banquet Bar.

The Royal Banquet Bar was the biggest karaoke and bar in Burlington, with 19 floors in total!

As they entered, the receptionist instantly spotted them as her eyes nearly popped out of her socket in disbelief.

Boss Bailey, at such a late hour of the night! It was Boss Bailey, in the flesh! Also, there was a woman in his arms!

Charmine frowned. If they were to be found together, she would make the headlines again! Swiftly, she turned her face away and buried her face deep into Anthony’s chest.

Chapter 319

The usually arrogant Charmine became a timid kitten in Anthony’s arms.

There was a faint smile on Anthony’s face, but he quickly composed himself as he ordered, “Prepare two sets of clothes to the room right away.”

“Yes, Sir.” Staff members lowered their heads and dared not peek at the woman in Anthony’s arms. They could lose their lives if they got too privy...

Anthony walked into the lift with Charmine in his arms, and the lift went to the top floor.

All rooms in the building were private karaoke rooms except the one on the top floor. There was a presidential suite!

It was specially reserved for Anthony, and only Anthony was allowed to stay in the suite. It would be kept empty even if he was not in, and it would be cleaned by professionals on a daily basis.

Once he walked into the room, Anthony turned to look down at the woman with her face burrowed into his chest. “How long are you going to stay like that?” 10

Charmine got flustered at Anthony's voice and quickly jumped out of his arms. She stood up right away, but as she inspected the room, a strange and familiar feeling aroused in her.

She... She had been in this room before!

Every item in the room seemed familiar. How could this be?

How...?

Anthony noted Charmine's strange expression and assumed she was not feeling well. "You may shower first."

Charmine said not a word as she walked around the room, and the room became much more familiar to her the more she inspected it, especially as she stood outside the bedroom. The sight of the big grey bed triggered shattered pieces of memories and flashes of images in her mind. 1

Charmine struggled to grasp just one fragment of memory, but no matter how hard she tried, the images came and went at a speed she could barely catch up to.

That was peculiar.

She stood by the bedroom door and forced herself to think, to recall.

It was then when the figure of a man emerged, followed by a sharp pain that needled at her skull.

"Argh!" Charmine cried out in pain.

Anthony rushed to her instantly. "What is it?" he asked, concerned.

Charmine massaged her temple as she continued to eye the familiar yet unfamiliar room. "Nothing..." She grimaced.

She had never been here before. Had the downpour messed up her mind?

Anthony saw how strangely she behaved, thus he hoisted her into his arms and walked toward the bathroom.

"P-Put me down!" spluttered Charmine.

"Judging by the way you're behaving, I can't let you be alone in the bathroom." With that, Anthony placed her gently into the bathtub.

Charmine frowned. What did he mean by that? Did that mean he would stay with her inside the bathroom?!

Looking at Anthony standing in the corner with a concerned face, she explained, "It's just a headache, but it's fine now. You may go out." "Go ahead and take a bath, I won't look back," prompted Anthony as he turned his back to her.

Charmine was dumbfounded.

What would he just stand there? How was she supposed to bathe? Even though his back was toward her, it did not change the fact that they were a man and a woman. If he turned...

When Anthony noticed that she made not a sound or movement, he frowned. "What now? Do you need my help?"

His questioning tone carried a suggestive undertone.

Flustered, Charmine picked up the bathrobe by the side and threw it at him. "Help? Help, my foot! Get out! Just stand by the door outside, and I'll call you if I need help. Don't be a pervert!"

The towel slammed against Anthony before it fell to the floor.

Anthony was far from angry as his lips curled up slightly and his gaze darkened. "Alright, call me if you need anything."

Chapter 320

Anthony walked out of the bathroom right after, and only then did Charmine get to heave a sigh of relief and started removing her clothes.

Charmine felt more relaxed as the luke-warm water touched her skin, but as she rinsed her face, the flashback she experienced just moments ago hit her once more.

Why did it all seem so familiar? Nonetheless, she felt much better inside the bathroom. Was it the rain that caused her discomfort, and only with a good bath would it be gone?

Charmine intended to settle that thought as she got out of the tub. She wanted to put on her clothes and get out of the bathroom...when she realized that her towel was gone!

Charmine remembered: She threw her bathrobe at Anthony, and it was soaked with rainwater from Anthony's soaked body. Moreover, he traversed the flood filled with soil and mud, and it soiled the robe even more!

There was only a towel left in the bathroom...

She did not have underwear either!

What could she do?

It was then when Charmine realized what Anthony meant, that she could call him whenever she needed him, before he left the bathroom.

Well, she needed plenty of help at that point!

Left without much of a choice, Charmine walked toward the bathroom door with just a towel as she called out, "Anthony, have they sent the clothes here?"

"Yeah, open the door." Anthony sounded as though he expected that.

Charmine opened the door slightly and left an incredibly narrow space of an opening, almost like a line. Of course, it was because the lone towel she had with her was too short, and she could not cover her thighs nor her breasts.

Anthony did not press on the matter as he passed the clothes to her, one piece at a time, through the narrow opening.

Lace pajamas, bra, underwear....

Charmine had no terrible impressions when she took the pajamas, but her eyelids twitched when he passed her the underwear.

So he just handed her these personal items so casually?

Cough, cough! She might as well open the door wide and let him hand the clothes to her with the underwear sandwiched inside.

How embarrassing was this!

Charmine had no choice but to reach out and grabbed them quickly, but due to her impatience, her bra and underwear fell on the floor, unrolled and opened!

Charmine and Anthony both froze, speechless and unmoving. 2

Both of them were momentarily struck, and only after a moment did they both reach down to pick up the fallen particle of clothes. However, being caught off-guard, Charmine grabbed Anthony's hand rather tightly.

Frowning, Anthony looked up at her, his pupils dilated.

Charmine followed his gaze and her face flushed. He was looking at her...!

She stood up instantly and pushed him out.

“Pervert!”

Charmine slammed the door shut, powerfully so.

Anthony was dumbfounded.

How dare someone call him a pervert! That was the second time she called him so, this night!

Pervert?

Why, he could do much worse than that Charmine put on her clothes hastily and walked out after. “Go take your bath,” barked Charmine, “and wash your eyes!”

Anthony merely turned a calm gaze at her. Her washed hair was left damp on her back as her red lace nightgown complimented her alluring body. While Anthony had a feasible grasp on his self-control, the thought of the underwear that fell to the floor replayed itself in his head.

Chapter 321

Charmine noticed the glint in Anthony’s eyes, and it made her rather uncomfortable. She walked to a side and leaned on the wall to make way for him, “Go on in! Why are you still standing there? You’re dirty.”

It only occurred to Anthony that he was still soaked in rainwater. Right, he had to wash up so he could get comfortable

His shoulder brushed against hers as he walked into the bathroom.

Charmine noted how the atmosphere got less tense once he left; that man always made the atmosphere heavy in a room. She sighed in relief and walked back into the room.

However, the strangely familiar feeling came back to her again. The carpet, the bed, the bedsheet... They all seemed so familiar to her,

With a frown, Charmine walked to the bedside and traced her fingers on the bed. It was made of the finest material, seemingly new. The establishment must have changed it regularly, yet the feeling was familiar to her. Unable to hold back her curiosity, Charmine sat on the bed and leaned on one side, allowing the familiarity to overwhelm her little by little.

Her mind was filled with different images and scenes, but they flashed by so quickly that she could not look into any of them. Her brows furrowed and her eyes were shut as she tried to take in the feelings around her.

The entire room was filled with a strange familiarity; even the air was familiar.

How peculiar.

With the unresolved thoughts, she gradually fell asleep.

Once he finished his shower, Anthony walked in to see Charmine on the bed, curled up on one side. He also noticed, however, that she was practically fretting as he brows furrowed.

At that instance, he had no heart to admire her. Instead, he tip-toed to her side of the bed. After turning off all of the lights, he hesitated by the bed for a few seconds. Charmine would surely wake up if he moved her, what with her acute alertness. Anthony eventually decided against moving her, and instead, gently laid beside her on his side as well.

The moment he laid down, the thought of the incident from five years ago occurred to Anthony-perhaps it was due to having a woman beside him. The room was dark back then as he tried his best to fight back the drugs in him when a woman walked in.

He usually had no reaction for women, yet he spent a memorable night with that woman.

The strange feeling was unforgettable to this day.

Despite not seeing her face, Anthony made up his mind back then that, no matter who she was, he had to marry her!

Never did he expect, however, that he would wake up to an empty bed the very next day when he woke...

Anthony instinctively turned to look at Charmine. How beautiful would it be if she was the woman from five years ago?

Unfortunately, there was no 'if' in the world.

Charmine had a restless sleep. As though strangled by strings, she felt a strong sense of oppression pressing on her. It had been so long since she had that dream, yet there it was, at this very moment.

She sat up, only to realize that the sky had turned bright

It was a dream. Only a dream. Luckily, she had been through the hardest part of it all. The phone on the bedside lit up, and she picked it up to see it was Gloria Duncan calling her.

Chapter 322

Charmine accepted the call and was instantly greeted with Gloria's frantic report, "This is bad. Charmine! We put our attention all to Scarlet when the co-lead of the event, Hayley Waltz was admitted to the hospital due to acute nephritis!"

Charmine frowned at that. She signed Hayley from Hollyoak; a charming, sexy, and attractive woman. Of course, Hollyoak forced the innocent, gentle, and girly figure on Hayley and portrayed her as a demure idol with a perfectly alluring body.

Hayley raked up an impressive fanbase because of that though she still received backlash for being fake, much to her chagrin. After she was signed to RisingHawk, however, Hayley had the freedom to be and act how she truly wanted to, her true self, so long as it did not harm her reputation.

Charmine let Hayley become the co-lead of Horizon Night. The Enchanting Concubine.

Alas, Hayley was sent to the hospital, and no one in Rising Hawk could model such a style. Who could Charmine look for to replace her, then?

"You'll have to think of a way, Charmine," rushed Gloria, "because it's starting in three hours! Our annual Horizon Night can't be ruined!"

"Don't worry, I'm thinking of a way. I'll reply to you in five minutes." Charmine hung up and instantly got to thinking of who could replace Hayley.

Charmine eventually went to Google and searched for models and celebrities who had taken the role of a concubine in the past movies and dramas. Not long after, numerous photos and documents came up, and all of them seemed elegant and enchanting.

Yet, one of the photos dazzled from the rest; it was a photo of Gigi Ritz for a movie's audition. Dressed in a white concubine dress, Gigi's makeup was stunning as it highlighted her cold and crystal clear eyes, an enchanting and captivating look. Since ancient times, the concubine was a woman more loved by the king than the queen, and Gigi had the look of an innocent yet seductive face! Perfect for the role!

Charmine's eyes gleamed as she took her phone and dialed Gigi's number.

At the same time, at Gigi's residence...

Just as she walked Scarlet to the gate, Gigi's phone rang.

She took her phone and accepted the call. "Hello, Ms. Jordan?"

"Hayley Waltz can't make it to Horizon Night, and we need someone to take her place. Are you interested?" asked Charmine, not beating around the bush.

Gigi's brows furrowed. "Huh? I... I've left the entertainment industry for seven years. I don't think I'm capable of"

"If it wasn't for Johnson back then, you would've taken the role of the concubine for the movie, gaining more fame than you already had! You should have confidence in yourself, climb up from where you fell. As long as you want and wish to, I can help you."

Charmine's words oozed with conviction and belief.

Gigi looked at Scarlet and her daughter, and both of them gave her a firm, supportive nod. With that, she said to Charmine, "Alright, I'll give it a go."

After hanging up, Charmine sent a detailed proposal to Eric and let him take care of the rest.

On the same day, the event went as planned. Horizon Night was live-streamed and garnered massive attention!

The so-called enemies Scarlet and Gigi-the third-wheeler and the wife-showed up together to Horizon Night. One donned a gold-colored costume while the other wore all red. Stunning and unique.

They led the other artists to walk around the heritage area and arrived at the peak of the city wall. Due to the beauty of both women and the recent viral discussions about them, photographers scrambled to take photos of Scarlet and Gigi.

By the end of the event, both women announced to the public, "We're going to establish our Love Women Fund, with the aim of providing funding to women who had been cheated on or abandoned, helping them to grow from the pain. Also, we'll host free classes every day, teaching women to be cautious and smart." 1

Their announcement broke the internet. Scarlet and Gigi were women that pitted against each other but had become best friends at the end of it all, and they even established a charity project together! It was a once-in-a-blue-moon occurrence to have a third-wheeler and a wife befriending each other. 1

Their appearance-along with their beautiful costumes-went viral and broke records for Horizon Night as it attracted three times more attention and discussions. Also, the retweets on Twitter went up to five billion!

As the event ended, Gloria was swamped with calls that she hung up on many of them. When one particular caller ID popped up, however, Gloria was startled.

This person called her?

Chapter 323

It was Master Potter.

A master in the calligraphy world. A simple word from him could sell tens of millions while his words were documented in the national museum.

A man of such importance...called her?

Gloria eventually answered the call and genially greeted, "Master Potter, how do you do?"

"Gloria, your event is such a success. You managed to clear up Scarlet's reputation! You've improved greatly!" Master Potter praised her, his voice clearly expressing his impression.

Even though Scarlet was proven to have been the one cheated on, the third-wheeler term still stuck to her as it tarnished her reputation badly and cost her a lot of followers. However, with this genius plan, Scarlet not only made a contribution to society, but she even partnered with Gigi so that even Gigi's fans would forgive her completely. This, ultimately, would improve their popularity and likeability.

That was an indisputably perfect tactic to save a person's reputation!

"This isn't my idea at all," admitted Gloria. "Another impressive woman came up with the plan, truth be told, and I truly respect her for that." :1,

The other day when Gloria went to RisingHawk and intended to terminate the contracts, Charmine proposed to have Scarlet establish this charity. As planned, Gigi showed up with Scarlet, and the result was far more promising when they announced the charity project together.

Master Potter gaped in shock. "What? It wasn't your idea? There's another great mind in your industry other than Claire Eastly? Who could come up with such a brilliant idea? I'll be honest with you: My granddaughter had some issues lately. Her reputation isn't doing quite well, and I'd like you to help her

out."

"Well..." Gloria thought of Charmine's status and busy schedule, thus she hesitated. "She's a rather...proud individual. I'm not sure if she's willing to help, but I can ask."

Master Potter replied, "Alright. Thank you, Gloria. Please convey my message to her and that she could name any price. Tomorrow at eight, I'll wait for her at Derby Café."

"Alright."

At the Royal Banquet Bar...

Charmine went back to sleep after she had sent the proposal to Eric. Due to her nightmares that gave her a restless sleep, she slept till noon to make up for her lack of sleep.

Deciding against waking her up, Anthony asked Luke to send his documents so he could work in the living room as he waited for Charmine.

Luke glanced at the time before he worriedly asked, "Boss, the international conference is happening at two. Shall we wake up Ms. Jordan?"

"No need," Anthony snapped.

He glanced at the bedroom and said with a low voice, "Postpone the conference to four in the afternoon."

Postpone...

TE

Luke was placed in a difficult position. The conference would be attended by people of great importance, and everyone took the time out of their busy schedule in addition to time differences. They had

scheduled this conference for at least a month to find a time that worked for everyone.

"What? You can't do it?" Anthony frowned.

"Yes, I can. I'll work on it right away." Luke turned and left.

His boss had lost his mind in the pursuit to please his lover! How could Luke say no to him?

Charmine was still asleep when the vibration of her phone woke her up. Half-awake, she answered the phone to hear Gloria speaking, "Ms. Jordan, are you busy? I'm glad that I didn't terminate the contract with you the other day. The event was a success, and I'm extremely grateful for that."

Charmine merely made a small sound as a reply, her eyes still shut.

Gloria continued, "There's this thing... An old man was truly impressed by your ability to plan things. His granddaughter has had some issues lately, and he'd be pleased if you could help out. As long as you're willing to help, he'd pay for any price. Also, he's an artist that I truly respect, a man of importance, and that's why I really hope you could help him out."

Charmine frowned. Any price? She lacked no money, but it would be nice to earn some extra cash to buy toys for Chris. Furthermore, she had been planning things in the background lately as she waited for Tiffany to take action in order for her to execute her plan. Though it was no hurry, it would need at least another twenty days for that to happen.

Knowing she had ample free-time, Charmine agreed, "Alright.". "Thank you so much! Tonight at eight, he'll be waiting for you at Derby Café."

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Gloria was very grateful; she was quite rude to Charmine the other day after all. As she recalled that day in RisingHawk. Gloria continued, "Speaking of which, I should thank Julian. If it wasn't for him, we wouldn't have been able to work together. I can tell that he really likes you and is apologetic for what he did. You should reconsider him."

"Gloria, am I a person who'd wear broken shoes?" Charmine scoffed and hung up right away.

Charmine sat up to stretch her limbs...when she noticed the time was already twelve at noon! Had she really slept that long?

When she walked out of the room, Charmine saw Anthony sitting on the sofa, his legs crossed with a document on his lap.

The afternoon sun that peeked through the window glinted against his being. Anthony looked elegant, expensive, regal, and powerful."

He looked up to meet her gaze, and his lips parted, "You're awake? There's lunch on the table, help yourself."

"Great." Charmine's eyes narrowed as a sigh escaped her lips. How could that man be so attractive all the time?

She walked to sit before the table and started eating. As she ate, she suddenly thought of a question and looked at him. "Right. Do you feel strange sleeping on that bed? For example, having a nightmare? Recall something from the past, maybe?"

Anthony frowned. Recall what?

All he could think of whenever he looked at the bed was that night from five years ago. Anthony would have never come to this hotel if it was not for emergency purposes, like the flood from last night.

Of course, Anthony could not tell this to her, but his gaze maintained on her. "No, why? Do you?"

Charmine nodded. "It's rather strange. I had nightmares last night, dreaming of things I shouldn't have."

Anthony's eyes darkened; Charmine seemed to imply the incident with Rex Walker. Did she dream of that man last night?

Despite his hardened gaze, Anthony reassured her, "Perhaps it's due to the lighting and rain. Let it go, it's all in the past."

Charmine nodded and continued eating, though her brows remained tight.

Was it truly the lightning and rain? She had trained herself for the past five years to not be affected by the external changes.

"Charmine," Anthony called out.

"Huh?" Charmine looked up at him, confused.

Anthony looked into her eyes. "You don't have to mind about your past. As I said, I don't mind."

His tone was deep and serious, his expression genuine,

Charmine's heart skipped a beat again. Did he say that to comfort her? He seemed to not mind her past, judging from his tone, and his eyes were just as genuine.

She lowered her head and quickly finished her food. She changed the subject, "We should head back. Momo is still waiting for us at home."

Anthony looked at her. It was apparent that she did not want to face the problem, but he did not press on the matter. "Alright."

After changing into the clothes sent here by Luke, Charmine was ready to leave the room. Once she walked out of the room, however, Charmine spotted a serving staff standing at the far end of the hallway. Eyes narrowed, Charmine hastily walked back into the room.

There were so many people out there! If she was to go out, the entire world would know that she was in the same room as Anthony!

Chapter 325

It caught Charmine by surprise when-as she turned-she rammed against something hard like a wall.

It was Anthony.

Of course, it was because Anthony walked right behind her, thus resulting in Charmine bumping against Anthony's arm.

Anthony lowered his head to look at Charmine in his arms and frowned. "What now? What else do you want to do in the hotel room?"

"You wish! There are too many people out there, and they'll spot us right off the bat if we go like this. Do you have hats?" asked Charmine.

"No," came his reply.

Charmine grimaced. Damn it! Charmine got into the hotel by hiding in Anthony's arms... How could she leave then?

After a moment of thought, Anthony offered, "I'll lend you my hug again."

Again? He would carry her again?

Instinctively, she refused, "No need."

There were other ways to go around it, Charmine thought.

At that moment, they heard footsteps that paced toward them. It was not just one person; it sounded like a group of staff walking toward them.

Without hesitation, Charmine jumped into Anthony's arms. She wrapped her arms around his neck as she snuggled into his arms.

Anthony instinctively caught her, and his lips curled up.

The group of staff walked toward him and greeted in unison, "Mr. Bailey."

"What?" asked Anthony, with Charmine still in his embrace.

The man that stood in front of the rest lowered his head and reported, "Mr. Bailey hasn't been checking the quarterly report for a while now. Since you're here, I've brought you our latest quarterly report."

The matter disinterested Anthony; he only invested in Royal Banquet Bar for his own convenience. His brother Nial liked to push him to join them in those clubs, but the clubs outside were dirty and messed up. Due to that, Anthony appointed his men to open Royal Banquet Bar, an establishment with rules that offered a better atmosphere and surroundings. For example, guests of the establishment must be of the top 30 entrepreneurs in Burlington and the top 300 families in the country. The minimum spending in the Bar would be a million per entry, and should anyone stir trouble in the bar, they would be beaten up and thrown out no matter what.

Anthony had anticipated the business would dwindle in its course, thus it surprised him to see how many families used the Bar as a way to show off their wealth and assets. Throughout the years, Royal Banquet Bar earned 10 times more than the other bars did, making impressive figures with ease.

Anthony had no interest in listening to the report, but as he gazed at the little kitten in his arms, he said, "Why not? Read them to me."

Read them to him?

Charmine gaped. Was he not supposed to make them leave? To move away quickly?

It would take up so much time listening to the report!

Alas, Charmine could say not a word as she was surrounded. She had no choice but to wait silently in his arms.

The chief executive officer read the report aloud, "In the first quarter of 2020, the gross profit of Royal Banquet Bar is fifty-three billion, including thirty percent from the alcohol. The service fees take up five percent..."

A bunch of numbers and data, professional but boring.

Anthony listened quietly with Charmine in his arms, from the report of the first quarter to the second quarter, then to the third. Reports on various expenses, services, facilities and whatnot, it took about five minutes just to go through those!

Charmine almost fell asleep, yet the man continued, "In the following five years, our plan is to expand our bars to other cities, aiming to expand globally by..."

Cough, cough! The man was talking about the Bar's future plans already...!

Charmine adjusted herself in Anthony's arm, her nostrils filled with his refreshing scent. She could clearly feel the outlines of his rock-hard muscles just by leaning her face against his chest.

This position was too misleading! She had been in his arms for so long, and with so many eyes on them too!

What could she do if anyone spotted anything on her that served to identify her? What if they found out that it was her all along?

Unable to stomach the thought and wait any longer, she poked Anthony at his back.

Meanwhile, Anthony felt Charmine's finger poking against him, but he merely gave a faint smile and did nothing on it.

Chapter 326

Charmine frowned. Was Anthony that immune to pain?

She decided to poke him harder, and she moved down to his waist instead.

Anthony noticed how there was more force in the way she stabbed him with her finger, thus his gaze hardened. "Not bad," he spoke, "keep up the good work."

With that, he walked to the lift with Charmine in his arms.

Everyone was shocked and surprised. Boss Bailey actually listened to all of the reports and even said 'not bad' and told them to 'keep up the good work?!'

Never before had they seen Boss Bailey in such a great mood. Was it because of the woman in his arms?

Everyone gave him a respectful bow. "Thank you, Boss Bailey," they bade in unison as their eyes trailed to Charmine.

Who was this woman that Anthony liked? Someone who changed him?

They wanted to know who she was!

Even though Charmine was already inside the lift, she still felt the gazes that pointed at her like lasers, as though she could get zapped.

It surprised her still why Anthony would agree to listen to the report. It took them eight minutes in total!

There were so many people out there! Was it not better to leave as soon as possible?

It was only when Anthony sat Charmine on her seat did she finally breathe the fresh air. "You did it on purpose, right?" challenged Charmine, unable to hold back the question.

“Hmm? What?” Anthony looked at her, seemingly confused as he fastened the seatbelt.

Charmine wanted to accuse him of doing all that on purpose. If they walked straight to the car, he would not have to carry her for more than a minute. No matter how she looked at it, she was convinced he purposely did that so she would stay in his arms for longer!

Still, Anthony acted all innocent and confused, showing no hint to prove her point as if he was a righteous gentleman.

Charmine had to swallow back her words as she dismissively said, “Whatever. Forget it!”

She would stomach that then, though she would remember to minimize their appearance in public from then on.

The car steadily drove toward the Baileys’ residence. Charmine was reminded of McKenzie setting up a spy on them, thus she instinctively prepared to lay on Anthony’s lap again when she recalled the embarrassment from last night. It would be so embarrassing if the same thing happened again!

She then trailed her eyes to the steering wheel and the car’s setup. This was the latest Rolls-Royce customized J11, and the seats could go as low as 180 degrees flat.

With that, Charmine pressed the button by her seat and the set started reclining gradually, allowing her to lay down.

Anthony noticed it all as his lips pursed slightly. Luke had just sent him this car this morning, and it was a customized model. Why was Charmine so familiar with the features?

Unless...

What else did he not know about this woman?

The person appointed by McKenzie was left empty-handed again. The car drove into the lift and was brought up to the mansion.

Both Charmine and Anthony walked out of the lift and were instantly greeted with Chris running toward Charmine. The boy quickly hugged her by her legs.

“Mommy, Mommy! You’re finally back! I’ve asked them to make you soup! Drink it while it’s warm!” As he spoke, a maid brought over a bowl of soup.

It was a chicken liver soup!

Charmine flushed. Why did Chris have them make her this soup?

Chris took Charmine's hand, seemingly supporting her. "Mommy, here, sit down. Do be careful when you walk, and be careful of the baby in your tummy." 1

That took Charmine completely by surprise.

Baby in her tummy?

Her head snapped toward Anthony. What did he say to Chris? Why did Chris behave so strangely?

Chapter 327

Anthony looked at her, equally clueless.

By then, Chris had already assisted her to the seat. He then scooped a spoonful of soup and aimed the spoon at Charmine.

Charmine frowned and questioned, "What's going on, Momo? Mommy has eaten, I'm not hungry."

"But Mommy needs to eat nutritious food! Even I know it! Mommy doesn't have to feel embarrassed."

Chris insisted Charmine eat the soup, his eyes practically gleaming at her belly. "Mommy," beamed Chris, "do you think I'll have a brother or a sister?" 2

Charmine was staggered.

Brother? Sister?

Did Chris assume that she and Anthony went to the hotel to do such a thing?

Then again... That was likely it! Why else would he make the liver soup and mention a baby?

Charmine explained, "Momo, Mommy didn't do anything like that. You naughty boy, you're imagining things! Also,"

"I get it, Mommy, I get it! You're superstitious and don't want to talk about it before you're three months into the pregnancy!" Chris made a cute gesture with a finger in front of his mouth. "Don't worry, I'll keep this a secret!"

Charmine was rendered speechless.

What was wrong with this generation of kids? Before she thought of a way to explain to him, Chris suddenly thought of something and wobbled hastily into the room.

Through the slightly opened door, Charmine saw that he was picking out toys!

Charmine turned to Anthony. "What now? What do we say?"

"We don't have to. Nial said that we should make sure he remains happy, it's good for his health." Anthony seemed calm and did not seem bothered.

Charmine rolled her eyes. Of course he did not have to explain; he was not the 'pregnant' one.

Speaking of which...

"Didn't you say you'd focus on healing Momo within three months?" asked Charmine. "Any progress?"

"Nial had gone to America. He's learning the latest technology, and it's likely to make progress," came Anthony's explanation.

Charmine frowned. Likely?

So it was not guaranteed?

That was understandable. After all, mental illness was the most difficult illness to tackle globally, difficult to cure. Her gaze fell on Momo who was inside the room. He had an innocent grin on his face as he altered between playing with his toy cars and a doll, as if deciding if he was getting a brother or sister.

He was so young and deserved a happy childhood. Why did he have such a painful illness? If only he had a mother who would be with him forever, someone who could give him a younger sister, so that he would be happy every day and probably healed from the illness.

The thought tugged at her heartstrings.

Ding! A message lit up her phone.

It was from Gloria. [Tonight at 8pm, Master Potter will be waiting for you at Derby Café. Don't forget. Thanks!]

Charmine replied, [Ok.]

Due to the incident between Scarlet and Gigi, the Horizon Night event went viral and was greatly discussed. A win-win for both parties, really. News of the event

overshadowed many international headlines and news, thus the industry crowned Charmine as 'God's Hand'

Some people even brought up Charmine's Guci counter-tactic. Everyone called her the 'No.1 God's Hand', surpassing Claire Eastly who was once the greatest mind in the industry, though nobody heard from her after her company went bankrupt. 2

Charmine had just returned to Burlington in less than two months, yet so many things happened. 1

It was past seven in the evening at Darby Café. Senior Potter was sitting with a woman by his side. The woman was McKenzie!

Chapter 328

McKenzie was dressed in a beige-colored dress, elegant and exquisite.

"You made me dress up so formally, Grandpa. Who are we actually meeting?" asked the curious McKenzie.

"An incredibly prominent person who can shift the tides to her favor without fail. Didn't your reputation suffer for the past few days? This bigshot can help you change it for the better. Do put on your best behavior later on," advised Senior Potter.

McKenzie's eyes narrowed at that. An incredibly prominent person? How could there be a bigshot she did not hear of?

Also, what did he mean her reputation suffered for the past few days?

Of course, she made no attempts to fix her reputation after sending those system texts to Omega users and got heavy backlash for it. She merely left it at that. What could the netizens do anyway?

She eyed her grandfather, the arrogance in her rather palpable at that. "Grandpa, why care about what keyboard warriors think? They're all poor and class-less. Why should I care?"

"Look at you! How are you even a young person? Everyone cares about their reputation online nowadays. I saw how people are still posting on your Twitter feed asking for you to apologize to Scarlet! 1

"You're my only heiress, and all of my assets will be passed on to you eventually. You'll have to look after your reputation, understand?"

"Fine." McKenzie had no choice but to concede to her grandfather.

Senior Potter took another look at the time. "Three more minutes. Bigshots are usually right on time. I'll go to the washroom, so you wait for her here and have a good chat."

"Okay." McKenzie had no choice but to agree.

Her Grandpa cared too much of what others thought. McKenzie, on the other hand, was caught up with the whole Anthony and Charmine mess that she spared no time for small matters. All matters. Still... If this would improve her reputation, why not?

After all, Senior Potter was a man who cared about his reputation greatly, expecting his heiress to be untainted by rumors and criticisms in order to save troubles in the long run.

McKenzie took out a mirror to touch up her make-up.

At that moment, the sound of high heels clicking against the floor was heard. McKenzie lifted her head and saw a woman standing by the door.

It was Charmine Jordan!

Charmine was dressed in a white suit, seemingly professional and experienced. She spotted McKenzie in the room before inspecting the room number. "Where's Senior Potter?" questioned Charmine.

McKenzie recovered from her shock and scoffed, "Where did you get that info from, Charmine? How do you know my Grandpa is here? Do you think anyone is allowed to meet him?"

Charmine's eyes narrowed at that. So Senior Potter was McKenzie's grandfather?

As Gloria was the intercessor, Charmine did not bother asking or investigating the matter as she assumed it was just someone else from the industry. Never did she expect Senior Potter to think so highly of McKenzie that he wanted to improve her reputation.

McKenzie saw how Charmine remained where she stood, thus she reclined back to her seat and sneered, "Why are you still here? Don't think you can buy my Grandpa's calligraphy with the few pennies that you own. My Grandpa's art isn't for anyone, especially for a disgusting b*tch like yourself! Even if you kneel and beg my Grandpa, he won't sell them to you. Get out!"

Her words were full of anger and disgust. McKenzie felt nauseous whenever she thought of Charmine

sleeping with Anthony!

Charmine did not even bother rolling her eyes, and she merely turned and left. Her pace was steady and confident, exuding a strong temperament from her gait.

McKenzie scoffed. A cheap, nouveau riche tried to snatch her Anthony from her? She would pay dearly for that.

When Senior Potter came back to the room, he looked at his watch suspiciously. "What's the matter? Didn't the bigshot say she'd be on time? Where is she?"

"Grandpa, why don't you call to ask? Who on earth would let you wait?" McKenzie suggested.

Senior Potter agreed, and he took out his phone to call Gloria. Who would have thought...

Chapter 329

"Hey Gloria," Philip spoke into his phone, "where's the person?"

"Master Potter! She had gone in, but she said that your granddaughter insulted her and made her leave!" replied a helpless Gloria.

Master Potter frowned. What? The bigshot came, and his granddaughter made her leave?

Furiously, he hung up on the call and slammed his hand on the table. "McKenzie, what's wrong with you? Do you know that I've begged this person to come? How did you even make her leave? Do you even want your reputation back? I, Philip Potter, won't let anybody inherit my wealth!" 1

His face was flushed red as his mustache almost spiked up in rage.

McKenzie had never seen her grandfather so angry, thus she explained, "Grandpa, I didn't make the person you invited leave! I only chased away Charmine Jordan,"

She halted mid-sentence, eyes narrowed as she looked up at him suspiciously. "Grandpa, the person you invited isn't Charmine, is it?"

"How am I supposed to know the name of the bigshot? I only know that she planned for Horizon Night and helped Scarlet and Gigi gain popularity and positive impressions overnight. Scarlet was a third wheeler and Gigi was an out-dated actress, yet both of them were able to gain such fame! Your matter would be an easy one for her! why can't you control your bad temper just once?!"

Philip Potter roared at her in white-hot anger. It took him all his willpower to not smack McKenzie.

McKenzie knew it right away. Who else had helped Scarlet and Gigi apart from Charmine Jordan?

She never thought that this so-called bigshot her Grandpa referred to was Charmine all along!

She glammed up all to meet Charmine! Did her grandfather want to beg Charmine to help her?

McKenzie called out furiously, "Grandpa, all you care about is the surface! You've no idea how disgusting this Charmine is... She slept with Anthony!" .

"What?!" Philip's white brows tightened, caught off-guard.

McKenzie looked at him seriously. "The so-called bigshot you invited was Charmine Jordan! She just came back from Africa, the adopted daughter who screwed up the Jordan family!

"Grandpa, do you think she's that capable? She has Anthony supporting her! Who knows? Perhaps Anthony was the one who gave her the plan!"

"McKenzie, you know I hate it when people lie. Do you have any evidence?" asked Philip with a straight face. "Didn't Senior Bailey arrange for you and Anthony to get engaged by the end of the month?"

McKenzie scoffed, "That's what his parents said, but Anthony doesn't like me. Charmine got him-hook, line, and sinker. I saw it with my own eyes, both of them all over one another. They even live together!"

Philip saw how serious she looked, thus his rage dwindled down. "Is that true? That Anthony doesn't like you, but he likes the adopted daughter of the Jordans? An actress from the entertainment industry?"

"Grandpa, have ever lied to you?" McKenzie helped him to sit down and poured him some tea.

"When I first heard it from Kelly, I didn't believe it either. In my heart, I thought that a godly man like Anthony wouldn't like someone like her. However, I saw it with my own eyes when I went to the mansion. Charmine even convinced Chris to scare me away with pythons."

She told Philip everything. Philip slammed the table in rage, so loud that the slam reverberated.

"Absurd! This is absurd! A woman of her background must've been tainted by many unclean things! Why would Anthony like her?"

