

Warning: My Mommy is A Savage! by Seeking A Peaceful Chapter 75-100

Chapter 75

The approaching man was actually Julian's assistant, Oliver. It appeared Julian had resolved to marry Charmine.

“As long as Charmine married him... Well, any married woman would find it difficult to be a model, what more if she's pregnant...” Tiffany mused to herself, and her mood improved right after.

“Are these roses for Charmine? Better be nice to her,” reminded Tiffany.

“Yes.” Oliver lowered his head, but it was clear he was riddled with questions. He thought that Chairman Julian was supposed to be dating Tiffany. Why was he pursuing Charmine now? Why was Tiffany not jealous but seemed supportive instead?

He knew he was in no place to ask these questions; he was only here to deliver flowers.

Not far away, a black luxury car was parked at the side. Anthony was sitting in the backseat with 99 red angel's trumpets. There was a card on top of the bouquet, and it read, [You are so beautiful.]

Anxious, Anthony asked, “You think Charmine will like these? Flowers will work for her, right?”

Nial nodded and assured, “Of course! Women love flowers. Furthermore, these angel's trumpets are a perfect fit for her poise and stature. If she places these flowers at her home, she'll think of you each time. This will be better than making her some desserts that she'll gobble up, no?”

Anthony thought of the dessert he made for Charmine, to which she merely replied, “Stop sending me these.” His face sank; it was the first time a woman he was actively pursuing turned him down. Why not give flowers a try? 3

At this moment, Charmine left the building. Anthony then straightened his tie and prepared to exit the car with the bouquet. Chris held up his fist from the side and chirped, “Good luck!”

Anthony nodded, but as he was going to get down of the car, he noticed a man—Oliver—approaching her first, and he handed Charmine the flowers.

“Ms. Charmine, these flowers are from Chairman Julian. They're imported roses from France. He picked out every single flower.”

Oliver intentionally emphasized the fact that Julian handpicked each flower on his own, and his tone was full of haughtiness. He knew Charmine used to desire Julian's attention and pursued him in the past. She had to be giddy that Julian was giving her flowers at last.

So what if she was this infamous Diamond Boss? She just got lucky and struck gold. He was sure that deep inside, she was still an unclassy, uncouth, and good-for-nothing woman that would only be dependent on men.

He anticipated a favorable response from Charmine.

The last thing he expected was for Charmine to dismiss Julian's actions as she scoffed, "Julian himself picked out these common flowers? Wow, what bad taste he has."

She finished her sentence and walked past Oliver, bumping against his shoulder. Oliver was shocked. Did she just say Julian had bad taste? Did she not pine for Julian's attention before? Did she not want him to send flowers?

Tiffany witnessed the exchange and was just as dumbfounded.

She was surprised that Charmine did not care for Julian anymore. Did she not love Julian for fifteen years and went after him hopelessly? Now, all of a sudden, she did not want him anymore? 2

Anthony stopped in his tracks and looked at the bouquet in his hands.

'Fresh flowers were common'? 'Picking out flowers'? 'What bad taste'?

He threw the flowers into a nearby rubbish bin and eyed Nial sharply.

Nial offered him an awkward, sheepish smile. "Err... I didn't know my sister-in-law has such a unique taste?"

At this moment, Oliver remembered Chairman Julian's instructions and ran after Charmine thick-skinned. "Ms. Charmine, please accept this as a demonstration of the chairman's affection for you. If you have anything to discuss with him, please look for him directly to discuss it. Please don't put me in an awkward position..."

Charmine stopped in her tracks and looked at him with a ridiculous expression.

"Do I have to sign an acknowledgment of receipt too?"

Chapter 76

Oliver felt an uneasy feeling stirred at the pit of his belly; he could not understand why he felt this way. Suddenly, Charmine raised her long leg swiftly, and with a sweeping kick, the sound of something crumpling could be heard.

Just like that, the once fresh and vibrant angel trumpets were crushed by her force. As they laid on the ground, only bare stalks devoid of flowers were left in the bouquet Oliver was still holding onto. "If we're done here, you should scam!" Charmine snapped at the still-rooted Oliver.

Charmine used to be soft and docile. When did she become so wild and willful? She was too much of a savage!

Chris, who was sitting in the car, gleefully clapped as he chirped, "Mommy is so beautiful! That's how you do it! Daddy, you should hurry up and pursue Mommy. You still have a chance! Hurry up and win her over! You can't let the other guy steal her!"

Anthony appeared to ponder the boy's words. 'Pursue her? How do I do that? With Charmine's personality, it was very likely that she'd ignore me too.'

Anthony looked at Nial, still unhappy, and said, "I'm not the one who is a self-proclaimed expert at relationships. Why aren't you saying anything now?"

"I don't know," Nial replied hastily, "I don't know anything! I'm only a driver right now; a very responsible and hard-working driver

Responsible? Hard-working? Anthony's lips curled into a faint, amused smile. "I have an idea," he spoke as he turned to Chris, "so just do as I say."

Once everything was over, Charmine walked swiftly to the car park. She hopped onto her motorcycle and was prepared to leave when she heard a youthful, adorable voice yelling, "Mommy! Mommy!" 1

Charmine turned around and saw Anthony carrying Chris as they walked toward her. Chris' little body sat astride Anthony's shoulders; he looked small and cute. In contrast, Anthony's body appeared muscular and strong. A handsome man and a cute child... It was a sight for sore eyes.

Charmine frowned. "What are you both doing here?" she asked. Her tone of voice made it clear that she was not pleased to see them. Anthony was already used to her frosty treatment and responded calmly, "The last time we met, you taught me a lot about looking after a child, and I remember every word. Coincidentally, Momo's kindergarten is hosting a trip today, and I took the day off especially for it. We're preparing to bring Momo to an amusement park."

Charmine's expression looked a little less stern. She was pleasantly surprised to know Anthony was learning from his mistakes and making a change.

Anthony continued by saying, "However, this will be the first time that I'm bringing Momo out like this. Furthermore, we're going to a crowded place, and I'm worried that I won't be able to look after him well. This is why I've especially come to seek your guidance, to learn the methods." 1

"Well..." Charmine looked at his serious and earnest demeanor and started to instruct him in all seriousness, "Momo is still young, so don't play anything that is too extreme. For example, the rollercoaster or the pendulum ride are both unsuitable for him. Another thing to note is that the amusement park is full of people, so you'll have to watch him carefully. You might lose him in the crowd if you're not careful. Also—"

Suddenly, Chris began to sob audibly. "I—I want Mommy to protect me! Daddy is a man, and he's not careful...! He's already lost me ninety-eight times!"

"N—Ninety-eight times? That's too often!" gasped Charmine.

Chris pitifully nodded and added, "It doesn't matter if we're out shopping or when he's at work, or whether we're at a banquet or a party. Daddy will always forget about me and lose me. I don't feel safe with him! I don't want to go to the amusement park with Daddy! I'm not going!"

"Momo, be good. I'll watch you carefully this time. Moreover, this is a trip organized by your kindergarten. All of your friends will be there, too. If you aren't there, they'll tease you," came Anthony's patient persuasion.

However, as soon as Chris heard his words, he started to cry even louder. It was like he remembered something and was traumatized. "No... No! No, I'm not going! I'm not going! I don't want to go...! No!" Chris sniffed and wailed.

As he cried and struggled against Anthony, his little limbs flung in all directions. In the confusion, he jumped out of Anthony's arms and landed into Charmine's embrace.

Chapter 77

Charmine frowned as she turned her gaze to Chris, who was in her arms. "Momo, what's wrong? Your dad cleared his day so he can bring you to an amusement park. Why don't you want to go? As long as you don't run around madly, you won't be lost from your dad."

Chris pitifully sobbed before he muttered, "I don't... I don't want to go to the amusement park anymore." The boy continued to cry again after that.

Charmine was usually apathetic and unconcerned about anyone or anything. However, for reasons unknown, her heart felt like it could break as soon as she saw Chris crying. She hugged Chris even tighter. "Momo, what happened? You can tell me. I'll give your dad a stern warning, and I won't let him bully you."

The boy sniffled before he replied, "It's not Daddy... It has nothing to do with Daddy. The reason the teacher organized this family trip was to have a family, with both mom and dad there with us kids, at the amusement park. The other kids will have their moms and dads there. Early this morning, Timmy called me to boast. He said that his mommy got him a bubble machine...!"

"Momo doesn't have a mom. Even if I go to the amusement park, I'll still get teased. That's why I don't want to go! Momo would rather stay at home alone and cry instead of getting teased by the other kids!" Chris said this while crying continuously, and his tears ran endlessly.

In only a short time, Charmine's shoulders were drenched in tears. Charmine could feel the trembles of Chris' little body as he continued to cry. 'He must be so upset,' she thought.

She turned to Anthony and said, "There are so many women out there who adore you. I'm sure the great Mr. Bailey would find a woman companion for the trip."

"I've thought about that," replied Anthony, "but after looking at all their background checks, these women are desperate to just become Mrs. Bailey. If this is their motive, they might use Chris to get to me and do despicable things to him. For Momo's safety, this isn't a risk that I'm happy to take." 1

'Well... It's true. Apart from me, which woman wouldn't want to be married to Anthony Bailey? If it meant that they could be married to Anthony, many women would be willing to hurt Momo,' thought Charmine with a frown, and she sank deeper into her thoughts.

At that moment, she noticed that both Anthony and Momo were staring at her, and their gaze made the hairs on the back of her neck crawl. She swiftly blurted, "Err... I have matters I need to attend to today. I can't accompany you to the amusement park."

Chris instantly wilted once more. "It's alright... I know Mommy doesn't like Momo. Momo must've done something wrong, and that's why you don't like me. You should head home and rest, Mommy. Momo will leave you alone. I won't be a burden to you ...!" wept Chris while he let go of Charmine's hand.

He started to take small steps with his short legs; he looked like a lost puppy. As he walked, he bitterly wailed, "What did Momo do wrong...? Why is Momo the only one in the world who doesn't have a mom? Why does my real mom not like Momo? Why does Mommy not like Momo?"

Chris' broken voice felt like sharp needles that pierced Charmine's heart, one after another. It hurt so much that she felt like her airpipes were lodged. She wanted to rush ahead and hug him, comfort him, and agree to anything he wanted. However, she could not. It was not possible.

Charmine was done with the Jordan family business and was planning on returning home. There were still many things that awaited her attention, and she could not afford to stay out too long. Furthermore, the events from five years ago had already determined she would have no happy ending with them. She could only strengthen her resolve.

At that moment, Chris—who had been crying as he walked—suddenly fell onto the grass as his entire being shook in pain. The sound of his crying intensified and he let out a heart-wrenching whimper as his mouth started to froth. 1

“Momo! Momo!” Charmine cried out. Her every logic and reason disappeared into thin air as she sprinted and pulled Chris into her embrace. She was utterly horrified as she snapped at Anthony, “What’s happening to him? Hurry up and call an ambulance! Ambulance!”

“It’s no use. Every time he gets overly upset, he’ll start twitching. Unless he gets what he wants, he’d twitch for about thirty minutes, though sporadically, before returning to normal,” explained Anthony as he retrieved Chris from her arms to place him on the ground. “You can go ahead and sort out your work,” Anthony added, “don’t worry about him. He’ll be here, and his twitching will last for at least thirty minutes before it eventually resolves on its own.”

‘Thirty minutes? That’s such a long time,’ thought Charmine. Charmine stared at the tiny body twitching non-stop on the grass field and could not take it any longer. She grasped Chris’ little hand and said, “Momo, get better soon. I’ll step in to be your mommy. I’ll come with you to the amusement park! Wouldn’t that be great?”

Chapter 78

All of a sudden, Chris—who writhed and twitched on the ground mere seconds ago—sprung up in joy as he cheered, “Hooray!” He then jumped right back into Charmine’s arms.

Charmine was speechless. ‘How did he recover so quickly? This... This feels like another trap!’

The moment Chris noticed the shift in Charmine’s mood, he stretched his chubby hands to hug her neck. “Mommy, Uncle Nial said that my twitching is psychological,” he quickly spoke, “so if I take some medication, I’ll get better bit by bit. You promised me, so you can’t break your promise now. You’re coming to the amusement park with Momo! Adults can’t break their promises, and they can’t teach little kids to lie.”

What else could Charmine say? She could only lightly pinch Chris’ chubby cheeks and responded, “You cheeky little devil, you. Relax! I promised you, so I’ll see through that promise and go with you. However, in the future, you need to work hard so that you’ll be

a tough kid. You're tough as nails! You're not going to be beaten by a psychological sickness."

"Okay! I'll listen to Mommy!" Chris exclaimed while smiling at Charmine sweetly.

A short distance away, Nial was in awe at the event that unfolded. He could not believe their plan worked. They managed to trick Charmine into going to the amusement park with them!

All this while, his older brother knew how to woo the opposite gender after all. For the past 28 years, he was merely holding back and waited for someone like Charmine before unleashing his true potential!

Nial hurried back to the driver's seat like a good wingman. Anthony opened the door for Charmine like a gentleman, saying, "Please, Ms. Jordan."

Charmine carried Chris into the car and sat in the back seat. She was about to tell Anthony to sit at the front seat, but she instantly noticed the tall stack of papers. Her words were instantly lodged at her throat.

Nevermind. At least Chris was between them.

Charmine put on her seatbelt then moved on to do the same for Chris. As she did so, she reminded him, "Momo needs to be a rule-abiding citizen who values life. Every time you're in the car, remember to put on your seatbelt. This is a rule that everyone needs to follow." Her tone made it sound like she thought very little of people who did not wear their seatbelts.

Anthony silently put on his seatbelt, and even Nial in the driver's seat buckled his seatbelt without making a noise. The car started to move slowly, heading toward the children's amusement park.

At this moment, Charmine suddenly noticed the trashcan in the car that had a heap of red flowers. She asked curiously, "Why are there so many flowers in here?" The atmosphere in the car became filled with nervous energy in an instance. 1

Charmine was met with simultaneous

answers: "Our working partners sent them." "One of my admirers sent them." "The school sent them."

All three Baileys—Anthony, Nial, and Chris—responded respectively, and Charmine was bewildered. Whose flowers were these? It was just a simple question asked by Charmine, yet why did the air shift into awkwardness?

Anthony instantly changed the topic as he said, "That's not important. You should have a look at this; we bought it especially for you. See if you like it." Anthony retrieved an item and handed it to Charmine.

Charmine received it and saw that it was a mask. It was no ordinary mask, too... It was a Peppa Pig character mask! "You bought this for me?" she blurted in surprise. What was going on in Anthony's brain? Was this a new method to woo women?

Chapter 79

"Hey, it's not safe for you to show your face at the amusement park," came Anthony's reply. "It'll be better for you to wear a mask."

Charmine was speechless. What did he mean it was not safe for her? Clearly, the people who would be in the most danger were Anthony and Chris. One of them was dubbed the king of Burlington while the other was titled as its prince.

"Don't worry, we have masks too," Anthony said, seeming to guess what Charmine was thinking about. He took out two more masks and handed one to Chris. Chris took it with a big smile and quickly put it on. Already adorable as he was, the mask made him look even more endearing.

Still, something seemed off to Charmine... Something was not quite right. These three masks —Mommy Pig, Daddy Pig, and Peppa Pig—were clearly a family set of masks. Moreover, it seemed like it was bought beforehand!

Did Anthony prepare this before she even agreed? She felt like asking him, but the car had already stopped in front of the amusement park's main entrance.

Nial announced, "Head on in, you guys. I'm going to pick up a friend, but I'll be back to pick you guys up later on."

"Sounds good," replied Anthony as he put on his mask and carried Chris out of the car. He stood by the door and considerately held the door open for Charmine.

All the onlooking girls started to scream excitedly, "Oh, oh, oh! He's so tall! He must be at least a hundred and ninety centimeters tall!"

"Not only is he tall, but he's also such a gentleman! That's so attractive for a man to treat his wife so well!" sighed another.

"I want a car like that, Hubby!" demanded a woman to her husband.

Charmine, who was still in the car, frowned when she heard the girls. 'Anthony is too much. Even with a mask on, he can bewitch so many people. A bunch of nymphos with

no brains,' she thought inwardly. As Charmine liked to keep a low profile, she placed on her mask before stepping out of the car.

The three of them stood together. Anthony, with his tall figure, looked extremely refined and attractive. Charmine was close to 170 centimeters herself and gave off an air of vibrant energy. Standing in the middle of them was the precious child Momo, soft and cute. One look at him would melt a person's heart.

They attracted the eyes of many as they walked together, and some even took out their cellphone to take photos of them excitedly.

Charmine turned a blind eye to the antics of the onlookers. Since she had promised Chris, she was going to ensure he had an enjoyable trip in the amusement park. She held the boy's hand and reminded him, "There are a lot of people in the amusement park, so be good the whole time we're here. Hold onto my hand or your dad's hand, and don't run off on your own."

"Mommy, relax. With you here, I promise I won't go anywhere!" Momo patted his chest and stuck to Charmine obediently.

Anthony walked behind them. As he watched Charmine's figure from behind, his eyes darkened. This was the first time he had been to the amusement park with a woman. He had heard that an amusement park was the best place to woo a woman.

He hoped that his efforts would be successful today.

At that moment, Chris pointed toward the big Ferris wheel and gushed, "Wow! Mommy, can you see that Ferris wheel? It's so cool! Momo wants to go on it!"

"The Ferris wheel? Are you sure you want to go on it? It's not very exciting," Charmine tried to dissuade him.

Alas, Chris stood his ground as he said, "It's exciting! I want to go on it, and I heard it's fun! Also, Timmy just told me that he rode the carousel with his mom and dad. I want to ride the carousel with my mom and dad too!"

Charmine could only relent as she said, "Okay, okay, I heard you. Stay here, I'll go buy the tickets."

"No, let me buy the tickets," Anthony chimed in. "You can stay here with Chris, right by this tree." Having said that, he grabbed onto her shoulders and gently nudged her under the tree.

Charmine could feel his large hands on her shoulders; strong and capable. Even on this hot summer's day, his palms felt cool. She was flustered by his touch. By the time she

regained her composure and snapped out of her little trance, Anthony had already walked to the ticket counter to buy the tickets.

A small smile crept its way to her face as she gazed at him. This man was pretty darn attractive. Chris snuck a look at Charmine, and the corners of his lips curled up.

It looked like his Mommy was not completely against his Daddy.

He giggled gleefully and said, "Mommy, my daddy is better-looking than most other men. He's very hardworking, responsible, and has never been close to another Auntie! Daddy said that a man's pride isn't having a sea of women surrounding him, but it's to be able to love one person completely. To spend a whole eternity, just the two of you, is the thing he said he'd be most proud of."

Chapter 80

Unexpectedly, Charmine burst out laughing after she heard Chris' rather mature point of view. "Momo, your attempt to make me fall in love with your dad is too obvious. Did he teach you to say that?" she joshed.

"No, he didn't! It's real!" Chris used his doe eyes to distract Charmine so it would seem more believable.

Charmine, however, ruffled his hair and said, "I know you too well. I even know how many worms are in your tummy right now. You're still so young! How could you say all that if your dad hadn't taught you that?"

"Oh, but everything I said was true...!" insisted Chris with a pout. "Daddy really said that."

Charmine could not resist reaching under his mask to playfully pinch his little face. "Tell me the truth: How many girls have you said this to? How many women have your dad chased after?" she jokingly interrogated him.

"What's this? Is someone interested in me now?"

A deep, husky voice was heard coming from right beside her. Charmine raised her gaze and saw Anthony standing all too close to her! Her tilting her head to look at him nearly implanted her face into his jaw.

When she inhaled, all she could smell was his clean, pleasant scent. Charmine instantly stumbled back a few steps and, with a glare, she blurted, "Who'd be interested in you? I'm just teasing the kid."

Charmine then snatched the tickets from his hand and walked toward the Ferris wheel, all while she held onto Chris' hand.

Anthony watched as she stomped away, his thin lips curled into a faint smile. He was in no rush; the days ahead of them were long.

The amusement park was a famous luxury playground in Burlington, built to cater to the upper-class society. Only 500 families in the entire Burlington could enter this well-equipped park. Due to this reason, there were not many people queuing for the rides.

Chris cheered and danced excitedly as they approached the Ferris wheel. He clapped his chubby fists together while shouting, "Daddy, Daddy, get here right now! We get to sit on the Ferris wheel! I'm so happy!"

Anthony quickly joined them at the counter for their tickets to be checked. The attendant respectfully opened the metal fence to let them enter the ride. Chris held onto Charmine in one hand and Anthony with the other as he bounced joyfully.

Charmine's brows furrowed as she asked, "Momo, why do you like Ferris wheels so much?"

'Wasn't this something that only little girls like?' Charmine wondered. 'It's not even remotely interesting; you get to sit and only sit. What's so exciting about it that Chris is this happy?' 1

Chris cheerfully replied, "Of course I like the Ferris wheel. This is my first time at the amusement park and my first time on a Ferris wheel! Look at how pretty all the passenger cars are."

'Pretty?' thought Charmine as she assessed the Ferris wheel. It was completely surrounded by transparent tempered glass without a single decoration at all. A long blue leather bench was fixed on both sides of the passenger car.

Though the entire passenger car was pristine and high-end, 'pretty' was not a word suited for it. At that moment, the Ferris wheel began to slowly move upward, and Chris who had been cheering and jumping around suddenly let out a big yawn. He lethargically sat on the seat beside him.

"It's more fun to stand when you're on a Ferris wheel," said Charmine.

"Oh, I'll watch it sitting down and stand up when it's a little higher," Chris replied.

Charmine frowned.

Chris was fine a moment ago, so why was he suddenly disinterested? She did not press him any further and sat next to him. Anthony sat on the other bench as he looked a little uncomfortable. He took off his mask, and his strikingly handsome face was revealed.

Even though she had seen his features before, Charmine was still blown away as she sat merely a meter away from him. Furthermore, as the passenger car was slightly narrow in size, her nose was filled with his fresh earthy scent. Her heart started to beat faster like it was trying to escape her ribcage.

As they sat in such close proximity, the air seemingly held the idea that something—anything—could happen...

Chapter 81

Charmine tried to steer Chris away with a conversation. However, he dozed off on the armrest almost immediately!

The kid that had been whooping to go on the Ferris wheel had finally wound down and fallen asleep!

Charmine felt deceived. She wanted to wake him up but was stopped by Anthony.

“Just let him be. Whenever he has a seizure, it drains him.”

Anthony had even thought of reasons to defend Chris.

Charmine took a back seat and remained silent.

The Ferris wheel rose gradually, giving a bird's eye view of Burlington City.

Birds glided in pairs upon the windows, igniting the mind to imagine romantic scenarios.

Charmine showed little to no interest in the view. She went on look at her cellphone, giving Anthony the cold shoulder. 1

Anthony leveled his gaze on her with a frown and said, “Hey, Ms. Jordan! Are you sure you don't want to enjoy this stunning scenic view of Burlington? Staring at your cellphone for so long is harmful to your eyes!” 3

“Isn't this just a normal panoramic view of a city? It's nothing special,” said Charmine as she did not even bother to look at Anthony.

Anthony was perplexed by the reply. Nothing special? I thought girls love Ferris wheels, so how come she's turning her back to this?

“So what are you interested in then?” he murmured.

“Umm... Drifting or skydiving!” answered Charmine, crossing her legs while continuing to look at her cellphone.

Anthony's heart skipped a beat. Those were all the activities that he had never tried before.

The conversation was efficiently ended there

Along with the rise of the Ferris wheel, the other couples on-board were either hugging or kissing each other, while he...

Chris, who was fake-sleeping, tried to silently mouth a few words to give a hint to Anthony, "Daddy, you have only fifteen minutes left! Find a solution! Quickly!" 2

Anthony's countenance fell. He definitely did not want to waste the remaining time he had left. Looking at Charmine ignoring him for her cellphone, what was he to do?

As he also looked toward Charmine's cellphone, a lightbulb lit up in his head! He took out his cellphone and immediately texted Nial right after winking to Chris.

"Make the arrangements at the Ferris wheel."

Charmine was looking at the Phoenix Hotel's investigation report that Kay sent. Crack! Suddenly, the carriage shook vigorously. "Aaaah!"

The all the ladies in the Ferris wheel screamed in fear and buried themselves in the arms of their male companions.

Anthony had ever readied himself to welcome Charmine into his arms in such a panic-filled situation. To his surprise, however, she was still sitting calmly. In fact, she even quickly pocketed her cellphone and shielded Chris who was still sleeping on the chair.

'Is she even a woman?' Anthony stood stunned for a moment.

The carriage was now shaken vigorously again.

The ladies screamed yet again. Their voices were edged with fear, but Charmine kept her cool.

This made Anthony's face fall. 'Is she always cool in such situations? Are all my efforts now in vain?'

Anthony had never failed.

The carriage shook again. This round, he rose up to sit beside Charmine. "Don't be afraid, you have me."

He reached out and put his arm around her waist, attempting to protect her.

“In what way have I told you that I’m afraid?” she asked, nearly jumping out of her skin at his actions.

Chapter 82

“I know you’re struggling with your fear but don’t fear. I promise not to make fun of you.” Anthony pressed his chest further up against her.

Their bodies were close. She was now in his embrace.

She was wearing a bodycon red dress today. Now, she could even feel the warmth of his skin. Her heartbeat elevated when their bodies pressed together.

Him breathing so closely against her jogged her memories back to five years ago.

She was sleeping in a coma but could still feel that man’s body in her daze. It was like Anthony’s—strong and robust...

‘Damn it! Stop thinking about that dumbass. He’s not even comparable to Anthony!

‘I’ll definitely find out what had happened five years ago!’

“I’m not afraid of this. Let me go or I’ll kick your head in!” Charmine said sternly.

“Charmine, there’s nothing to be embarrassed about if you’re afraid. There have been deaths in amusement parks before. Come into my arms and I’ll make you feel safe,” said Anthony in all earnestness while patting Charmine on her shoulder.

Charmine was speechless.

‘This guy is truly a devil!’ She felt like stabbing a knife straight into his arm but could not do such a thing. Damn it!

The carriages were still shaking. The ladies’ screams were at an ear-splitting level.

Anthony brushed across Charmine’s back and said, “Don’t be afraid... Oh yeah...” He grabbed a necklace from his person.

“This jade necklace is an heirloom of the Bailey family. It helps to ward off demons and protect the person.” He put the necklace on Charmine while comforting her.

The necklace was paired with a platinum crescent pendant. It reflected an absolutely exquisite and detailed design.

With a translucent jade set it in, it was engraved with the wordings—I Love You.

At the inner edge of the crescent, there was a willow leaf that looked like an undulating flatboat.

Charmine did not show her joy, but her heart thumped loudly against her chest.

This was the latest couple necklace by ELVNX this year. The design for the man was in the shape of a sun that could be paired with the crescent to make a complete circle.

The leaf at the edge made a love shape when paired together with the male's design.

With the moon and the sun, the necklace symbolized, 'You and me together through the days and nights'.

How dare Anthony say that the necklace was a Bailey family heirloom when it was an international award-winning design, limited edition to the point that there were only nine for sale internationally!

How could it even ward off demons? It was

just a normal jade.

She attempted to take it off but to no avail. "You can't take it off. It's a deadlock." Charmine was tongue-tied.

The designer of ELVNX was a pig-headed person. Had she not known that?

—The flagship necklace could not be untangled once worn. It must be removed by a cutter, though the same design could be bought multiple times. This was unlike OHLY, the brand exclusively owned by her.

Symbolizing tacky relationship and mutual relationship destruction at the same time, people who got jewelry from ELVNX were considered loyal lovers.

He had just gotten to know her for a short time but was presenting her with an ELVNX.

Bang!

The carriage plunged and shook violently unlike before.

With the harsh vibrations, Anthony and Charmine collapsed onto each other, panting.

Charmine quickly shielded Chris who was still deep in sleep. However, that pushed her off balance. Together with the kid, they fell to the floor.

Chapter 83

Charmine scrunched her eyes up tightly before she fell to the floor.

Instead, she landed in someone's warm embrace.

"Ouch..."

It was Anthony.

She opened her eyes gradually and found Anthony lying on the floor right underneath them.

She could see blood blossoming from his shoulder.

"Are you alright?" she asked while picking herself up with Chris in her arms. There was a tinge of concern in her voice that she did not realize was present.

"You're worried about me, aren't you?" He smirked at her.

"Stop cracking jokes during a time like this, Anthony!" Charmine rolled her eyes.

"I just got cut by the glass. It's nothing serious so don't worry about it," he said, trying to comfort her as he got back up on his feet.

Charmine glimpsed at his back and saw a minor cut. Fortunately, the rest of him seemed unharmed.

This Ferris wheel was far too dangerous! She had to get someone's help.

All of a sudden, the Ferris wheel was back to normal as she was trying to reach out for help on her cellphone.

'What a coincident!'

"It's okay. Don't be scared," said Anthony. He thought she was scared out of her wits since she seemed a bit zoned out.

His voice was warm, gentle, and comforting.

He was now feeling a bit smug since Charmine was worried about him.

Chris took a peek and gave a small smile Yay! Charmine likes Anthony by ten percent now!'

The ride had finally come to an end.

"That's all for today. Go back and clean your wound," said Charmine as she carried Chris out from the carriage.

"It's not a big deal. It's just a minor scrape that can be dealt with a bandage," murmured Anthony.

It would be foolish for him to let such a date slip by! This was a now-or-never chance.

Grimacing, Charmine said, "Anthony, are you serious..."

"For Momo's sake then. You know he likes to be with you and so do I." Charmine's heart felt like it was filled to the brim by his words.

"Momo needs mommy! Momo doesn't wanna leave mommy!" Chris's eyes began to well up as he started to grumble.

"If Momo was to separate from mommy, mommy might be leaving Momo forever..." Chris looked as if he was about to burst into tears.

Her heart clenched at the sight. It was too hard to part from this five-year-old kid.

"Don't worry, sweetie. Auntie likes you very much and will definitely play with you when there's a chance, alright?" she tried her best to blurt out some words of comfort.

"Really? Let's make it a pinky promise then, mommy!" Chris was now smiling through his tears while locking his pinkies with Charmine.

What did she just say?

She thought this would be the last time. However, it seemed like there would always be a next time as she had to honor her promise with Chris.

Things were not playing out how she had wanted them to at all.

Chapter 84

Fine. Just this once. She would make sure that there were no

more chances again after the next time.

Anthony and Chris looked at each other and smiled. This was a sweet moment of victory!

Apart from managing to give her his token of love, he had even found a way to call her on a second date! Perfect!

Charmine was then sent home with the necklace that had been unwillingly worn on her neck. It had slipped from her mind.

On the other side, Tiffany did not head home after leaving Guci Tower. However, she drove herself to HollyOak Entertainment.

HollyOak Entertainment was the largest entertainment company in the world with its huge pool of celebrities, singers, and models. Any popular artists that one could think of was under HollyOak Entertainment or its smaller branches. The company had the best resources and the best people, including PR general manager, Claire Eastly.

Claire was a top-notch scorer in both PR and crisis management. There was once an ill-mannered celebrity who was renowned for her discourtesy and always bragged about her money. While she was a household name for her arrogance within the circle, Claire managed to spin up her celebrity image as 'The Savage Queen', garnering favor amongst the public.

There was also another case of a clumsy model. She had no skills in strutting the runway, but she was gussied up as the 'Aces Holder' by Claire. She was able to use her tears as emotional blackmail, making others resent her for it. They received backlash, but the celebrity became prominent across the globe.

"Only Claire can help us in a situation like this. Pass this to her," said Veronica while handing over the present she had just bought to Tiffany.

"Okay." Tiffany took the present and walked into the office.

"Hey, Tiffany! Why are you here? I thought you're a homebody if things aren't work-related?" Claire welcomed Tiffany with a slight smile and laugh that seemed to teeter on the edge of a loud cackle. She seemed amused by her presence there.

Tiffany's leaked nude had caused a devastating impact on her career. She was pulled out from 90% of her partnership while the remaining 10% were just some general brands.

Claire suggested for her to keep a low profile and fly under the radar for now. She advised Tiffany to pour her focus into work in order to turn the tides.

"Of course I listened to you. I went to the photoshoot for Guci Magazine today but was put into the doghouse," said Tiffany while placing the present on Claire's desk.

That was a large, red lipstick box that held around 999 stalks of lipstick. Numerous top brands were inside, and some could even be sold at a six-digit selling price.

"What's this?" Claire took a glimpse at the box and asked.

“You know that Tiffany puts her all into her photoshoots and they actually go well. Who would have thought that Charmine was in cahoots with the thieves that got ahold of Tiffany’s pictures,” Veronica explained.

She continued, “Once the Guci publication goes live this round, I’m sure that Charmine will definitely run over Tiffany again on her way to the top.”

If one was able to hold the Top Model down, she would not be considered an unknown in their world.

Claire stroked her furrowed brow. She could hardly believe that Charmine could be such a capable and unbearable woman.

A thought ran through her mind. “It’s just a photo. It’s not a big deal,” she went on calmly.

“Veronica, bring Tiffany to the photographers and get her a couple of red costumes. Pose her just like Charmine during the shoot.”

“You mean...” Tiffany cocked her head and asked.

“What do you think will happen if your photos are released tonight, right before the Guci magazine publication?” said Claire.

Tiffany suddenly realized what she meant.

They could only steal Claire’s spotlight if their photos were published beforehand. This meant that when Claire’s publication was put up, she would be accused of infringement and plagiarism. 2

What an excellent game plan!

She thanked Claire profusely. “You’re truly the greatest PR! Okay, I gotta go now. I’ll make sure the photos are far better than Claire’s!” 1

“Go.”

Claire saw them off. Her eyes were misty and cloudy. It seemed that the more she stared more intently into them, the more one would notice that they seemed to hold every color imaginable.

“She must be a smart cookie. Tiffany can’t even handle her. Looks like I have to come to grips with this and get her into the company.”

Through her own means, she found Claire’s number and gave her a call.

Chapter 85

Claire lounged on her couch once she got home. She wanted to get some rest but Simon kept bugging her with his incessant questioning.

“Boss, when are you coming back? I really can’t handle the Diamond Company by myself.”

“Yeah, your management keeps calling me to keep an eye on you whilst we’re still not allowed to make our debut. Do you know that it almost ripped my heart out when I got to know about your incident earlier today on the Ferris wheel?” said Kay, the cool man with grey-bleached hair.

Simon gave him an eye-roll and continued, “Even if the boss wants to head back, she should have come with me first since I helped her to solve her scandal. Get in line!”

“Oh, c’ mon! Know your place. The scandal started because of you. You’ve barely redeemed yourself!” snorted Kay.

While they were about to get into a fight, Charmine uttered, “She’ll stay here for at least three months. You guys may as well just give up.”

Three months.

This made Simon throw his arms up in despair. It was very exhausting to handle Charmine’s previous affairs while maintaining her target performance at the same time.

Kay was in agony. For three months, he had to be an undercover bodyguard. A bodyguard who could only watch his boss secretly without being able to even fight back for her during danger.

He would rather get into a fight if he were given a chance.

“Boss Jordan, don’t you just want to settle Tiffany? Just say the word and I’ll settle her without leaving any evidence behind.”

“It’s not as easy as you think it is,” Charmine said as she slowly opened her eyes.

“Don’t poke your nose into this. Just mind your own business.”

Joey and others still liked Tiffany even though she had her nude scandal. Problems were always easy to be resolved but not perception.

Suddenly, Charmine’s cellphone rang.

Kay and Simon looked at each other, curious who it was. There were not many people who knew Charmine number. Who could the caller be?

“Charmine, this is the PR general manager of HollyOak Entertainment, Claire Eastly. I think you’re quite promising. Perhaps you can come over to my office some time so we can talk about signing you to my company,” commanded Claire, full of pride over the phone.

Everybody knew who Claire Eastly was. People were always hoping that Claire would make a star out of them.

She had never signed any celebrity by herself before. This was her exception, and she believed Charmine would appreciate it.

“HollyOak Entertainment? Claire Eastly? Who?” Charmine squinted her eyes, trying hard to recall the name while asking the rest of them who were present.

Every word stung, fueling the fire that burned inside Claire. Her face was red with suppressed rage.

‘How could she not even know about Claire Eastly and HollyOak Entertainment?’

“We’re the top company in the entertainment industry. We have most of the popular celebrities, and ninety percent of the best actress award are given to us,” explained Claire.

“You’re lucky that you caught my eye. I can make a star out of you,” said Claire with her chin held up high. She was as proud as the devil.

“So I’ll be the ten percent then,” said Charmine in a rather flat tone.

Claire was annoyed. “Charmine, stop getting over yourself! Money can’t buy everything. It’s not as easy as you think if you want to be in this industry. You’ll need to have a professional team to climb to the top.”

Chapter 86

#” ... Look at Amelia. She started with little to nothing and was always clumsy at first. I was able to make a star out of her...”

“Ahh! I see you’re the one who brought out Amelia. I’m sorry to tell you that I don’t keep company with hypocrites.” Charmine hung up the phone.

She had always known how audiences were deceived by the entertainment industry. However, she was always butting heads with people like Claire.

A good company should always promote goodness and capable people instead of characterizing incapable celebrities through falsification, equivocation, or concealment to cheat the audiences.

Ding! It was a text from Claire.

[Charmine, you'd better take a moment to think about this. I'll let you know the real pleasure and happiness you'd have by being in HollyOak Entertainment!]

Charmine just ignored the text.

"Have you ever thought of establishing an entertainment company?" she asked Eric.

For a moment Eric was too stunned to say anything. He knew that others would be in cloud nine at this suggestion but not him.

"Look, Charmine. I don't want to get into a long and dragged out fight with you over this. I already have enough problems handling one artiste—you. Therefore, let's just forget about it, okay?"

'How dare Eric rejects Charmine. He's so stubborn!' Kay and Simon were speechless.

"C'mon, Eric. I've even thought of the name. The RisingHawk Entertainment!" she insisted.

A hawk that stood above the oak tree. This symbolized that they are always on top of HollyOak Entertainment. What a perfect name!

It felt like they would have to agree with Charmine on the idea or their lives would be at stake if they even tried to retaliate against her.

"Hello, you mentioned that you wanted to establish an entertainment company earlier, right? I'm all in now!" Charmine said excitedly over the phone.

"Really?" The guy on the other end was astounded. He continued, "It seems like someone finally knows how to appreciate the pretty girls and boys in the entertainment industry, huh!"

"Hey, I'm serious about this. I'll mail you the details in a short while. Get it done once you've received it."

Charmine immediately sent the mail after she hung up the call. She has gotten all the objectives, targets, capital investments, and other details she could think of before sending it. She also left a remark jotted at the end of the mail—to poach the capable and distinctive celebrities from HollyOak Entertainment!

Eric's reflective gaze searched her face, his brows furrowed with concern. "Are you sure you're gonna pass this to Rio to handle?"

Rio was Joey's nephew. He was also Charmine's cousin who was unambitious but always liked to chase after girls. The family had considered him as a shame to the family name.

Taking a jog down memory lane when Charmine was at her rock bottom. Rio was the only one in the family who had faith in her. He believed that she would never cheat, and that was the reason why he was the only one that Charmine continued to keep contact with in the family within those five years.

Although Rio could be like a d*ckhead, he was very faithful. He would never spill the beans of Charmine's business. Furthermore, he was bold. He could be a talent if he was nurtured earnestly.

Charmine was always a visionary. She quickly jumped into business planning with Rio right after she sent off Kay and Simon.

"If the company is suffering a loss, then you'll have to say goodbye to me forever. However, if the company is making money, you'll get a ninety percent share of the profit!"

Rio was dumbstruck after he heard of the lucrative pay. It was npm and he was pumped to welcome the business to the stage!

Just when Eric was about to leave after settling arrangements with Charmine's work schedules, he was startled by a news report.

"Charmine! We're in trouble! The Guci photoshoot is gone!"

"What?!" Her face washed blank with confusion.

Chapter 87

She was just about to hit the sack after the long day but was now bent out of shape by the news.

Eric did not say anything. He merely handed his cellphone to her.

It was Tiffany's Twitter. On her account was a photoshoot of herself in red, posing similarly as Charmine.

She even copied the iconic pose of Charmine's cover photo.

In the photo, she was looking over her shoulder with her gaze drawn to her nose. Sitting confidently, she rotated her hand forward, lowering her shoulder slightly as she tilted her head.

Everyone could see the attractive outline between her torso and arm. She was removing her shyness with that red, looking like an absolute killer.

[You're so beautiful! [Love this picn [Tiff! You really nailed this red dress!

In just a blink of an eye, the photo was flooded with tons of comments. The media and potential sponsors were now all over her.

“So now she’s even trying to make a splash b y transforming her look.” Her eyes flickered with annoyance.

She knew that people would no longer be impressed by the time she published her Guci photoshoot. They would even think that hers was plagiarism. If she was to play off against Tiffany, her fans might have her sacked from the industry.

Eric was worried, “This is messy. Guci is the second brand you took up after coming here. If everything goes smoothly, it’ll secure your throne. Plus, we’ll be having the Glamorous Night Annual Dinner next month. If the Guci editorial wasn’t in jeopardy right now, you may have won ‘The Best Artiste’. Looks like you’ve dodged a bullet now that’s been sent by Tiffany.”

“No worries. She won’t have her way.” Charmine’s eyes glinted with hope, her red lips curled up in such a sardonic way.

“Where are you going so late at night?” Eric frowned when he saw Charmine put on her heels.

“It has nothing to do with Tiffany so don’t worry. Let’s go!” she answered, leaving Eric hanging in suspense.

A luxury car stopped by at the underground parking lot. Anthony sat at the passenger seat with an earring in his hand. It was probably the earring that Charmine accidentally dropped in the car earlier today. Anthony immediately got Nial to send him here after he put Chris to bed.

Ding. “Brother, look!” shouted Nial.

It was Charmine and Eric, walking out from the lift side by side.

He opened the passenger seat door for Charmine to enter.

Anthony's heart cracked a little. Charmine did not show reluctance when she was with Eric. However, she always turned her back to him in the passenger seat.

"Who's he?" he asked, eyes glistening.

"I've been researching this guy but to no avail. What I do know is that he's the one who came back with Charmine from Africa and currently handles all aspects of Charmine's career."

Nial further comforted him by saying, "However, I can assure you that they're not a couple."

"Ah! But that's only the present situation and not the future, right?"

He could not help it when his heart turned green with envy at seeing Charmine get along with another guy so happily.

Chapter 88

Anthony would need to work harder. On the other side, Eric drove his car to Moon Studio.

Moon Studio served as a studio that exclusively did photoshoots for celebrities or even the international blockbuster in Burlington.

They were welcomed by Mingail, the person-in-charge of Moon Studio, upon their arrival.

"Hey, Eric. You're here," said Mingail with a bright smile on her face.

"Yeah! We need your place to take a photoshoot or two. Would that be troubling you?" Eric asked politely. 1

"Not at all, no worries. We have all the props and costumes available, so feel free to use them." Mingail shook her head while scrutinizing Charmine from head to toe.

Eric brought Charmine to the wardrobe. She picked an avocado green dress and tied her hair up in a ponytail.

"Let's start now," said Charmine to Eric.

"You sure you don't need any makeup or styling?" he asked. 1

"No. Make me look as mediocre as possible," said Charmine sternly as she walked toward the backdrop.

The backdrop was white, as dull as dishwater.

Eric did not get why Charmine would prefer a mediocre shot when others would usually want to be at their best. 1

Tiffany's pictures were glamorous. Did Charmine not want to be on top of her?

"Charmine, are you trying to smash the cracked pot?"

"Do I look like that's what I'm trying to do?" Charmine rolled her eye.

"Just get the shot done. Put them up online after some rough edits. You'll know my intentions three days later," Charmine continued, stumping him.

He knew that Charmine would not let the cat out of her bag, so he decided not to ask further and just do as he was requested to.

During the shoot, Charmine posed herself either sitting on the floor, pretending to yawn nonchalantly a few times, or casually holding onto her chin. With no makeup, she looked plain. Not to mention, the avocado green dress made her seem like any other ordinary bystander.

"Look, Charmine. Are you sure you want to publish this?" asked Eric, who was unable to suppress his disagreement any longer.

"Yes, as soon as possible. Remember, only rough edits." She tapped Eric on his shoulder to stress that this was what she wanted.

It had been such a long time since she had burned the midnight's oil this way. She was drained after the shoot and could not help constantly yawning after she left the studio.

Out of the blue, a black sports car stopped right next to her. Behind in the passenger's seat was a muscular figure who was moving forward to open the door.

"Why are you here?" Charmine asked curiously when she saw him.

Chapter 89

Anthony stepped forward. "I just happened to be passing by. I can help drop you off if you need since it's along the way," he said in a rich and jovial voice while holding the door open for her.

Charmine immediately frowned and mentioned, "If I remember correctly, you're staying at The Palace Heart, am I right? I'm staying at the Violet Villa which is a few kilometers away from you. How exactly would my place be along the way?"

While hearing her question, Anthony teased, "You know where I'm staying. It seems like you are interested in me and did your research thoroughly."

"Tsk! You're overthinking it." While rolling her eyes at him, Charmine continued, "You're Burlington's Prince. Everyone knows you live in that land of gold. People talk about you no matter where you go."

Anthony was dismayed. He would have to pay attention to his reputation so that she would not hear anything unsavory about him.

"I'll be passing by. Plus, you made a promise with Momo this afternoon, right? Therefore, we're still friends." He then bowed slightly in a gentlemanly manner before ushering her into his car.

She was reluctant to accept the ride but was aware that she came here with Shane's Ferrari. Shane was supposed to be on a date with Mingail now. Charmine was in a dilemma about what to do.

Eventually, she got into the passenger seat. Anthony was over the moon as things were going his way.

The desolate streets of the city rested in silence as the starry black sky wept over them. The car moved under the glow of the bright yellow street lamps.

On their way to Violet Villa, Anthony could not help but gaze at Charmine. As the silvery-white moonlight rested upon them, the necklace resting on her collarbones could be seen so clearly. Her beauty almost took his breath away. He thought she would have taken it off but to his surprise, she still had it on her neck.

He wanted to chat with her but noticed she had immediately dozed off. She must have been exhausted.

Laying on her side, she curled up on the seat. Her sleeping posture showed how uneasy she felt.

She might look remorseless during the day but deep inside, he knew she was quite the insecure person.

Anthony's heart ached a little for her. He reclined the seat so that Charmine could rest well.

He slowed down his car, hoping that the smooth drive would allow her to rest well.

It would usually be a half an hour drive but it now took an hour.

The car stopped by the Violet Villa's basement parking lot.

After turning off the engine, he decided not to wake her up. Instead, he covered her with a blanket.

Charmine was startled awake, a vigilant look in her eyes. She immediately grabbed Anthony's wrist in an attempt to disarm him. Her hand was soft and slender.

"Don't worry, it's me," said Anthony.

Charmine's cold-eyed stare immediately faded after realizing it was Anthony. However, she remained apathetic toward him.

"Thanks for the ride." Charmine lifted the blanket and sat up.

"Do you want to invite me inside..." Bang! She slammed the door shut before he ended his sentence. Charmine got out from the car and left.

Chapter 90

Anthony was in no hurry. He still had his whole life ahead of him.

Charmine was dead tired. As soon as she got home, she immediately hit the sack.

She had spent most of the day shooting for a magazine, going to the amusement park in the afternoon, establishing RisingHawk Entertainment in the evening, before going for an impromptu photoshoot later that night. No wonder she was so worn out.

After switching her phone to airplane mode, she was out like a light.

As Charmaine slept soundly, Eric was pulling his hair out.

He uploaded some slightly retouched pictures according to Charmine's request but was criticized heavily in the comments. Even her most loyal fans were not backing her up.

[Boss Jordan, I'd really love to sit at your feet and worship you forever. However, this set of photos are really mediocre. I can't even!]

[Hey you up there, don't be so dramatic. I think the white background is sorta meant to represent purity.]

This silenced all the other commenters.

Eric felt as though his head was going to explode. He did not know what Charmine was up to. He wanted to help but he had no idea how to do so.

He looked on helplessly as Charmaine got ripped to shreds. As her manager, he felt incompetent.

Mingail poured him a glass of water and reminded him out of concern, "Eric, it's already one o'clock."

"Yeah, sorry for troubling you."

Eric kept his phone and stood up before he turned to her and said, "Thanks for today. I'll buy you dinner some time."

"Okay. You're the one who said it. Now please go home and rest earlier." Mingail smiled.

Eric turned around and left.

Mingail looked at him as he walked away, her hands balling up slightly.

He was always so polite to her.

If it was not for the photoshoot, he would not have come to her.

After he was long gone, Mingail finally came back to her senses. She took out her phone and started flipping through her contacts.

On her screen was Tiffany's number. She hesitated.

After struggling for a while, she threw her phone toward the couch.

She could not hurt his friend, even if she was her love rival.

Even without her tip, Tiffany would still receive a call from Veronica.

"Tiffany, turn on your laptop! Look at Charmaine's Twitter and see if you can figure out what she's doing."

Tiffany frowned. Bewildered, she asked, "What's going on?"

She turned on her laptop and logged into her Twitter.

Veronica said, "Well, to summarize, she took some photos but in such an unusual way... I don't know how to explain it to you. Just take a look at them yourself!"

Tiffany was even more puzzled now. Was it because Charmine's photos were more stunning than hers?

She searched for Charmine's Twitter and she saw her very unimpressive photos. She frowned.

The whole internet was ripping through Charmine's photos. They were not terrible, but it was just that they were unremarkable. She looked ordinary, just like an unmemorable passerby.

As the saying went, 'There was no harm as long as comparisons were not made'. Seeing Charmine's unremarkable shots, the netizens were loving Tiffany's red dress shoot and praising her to the skies.

She was puzzled. "What's Charmine up to?"

"I don't know. Do you think she's lost her mind? She should be trying to take a better shoot or even put you down. Instead, she just came out with such ordinary pictures?" Veronica was very confused as well.

Veronica's brows furrowed. She looked at the pictures again but still could not figure out what Charmine was up to.

She had a bad feeling that something terrible was about to happen.

Chapter 91

Veronica was afraid that this might upset Tiffany further.

She tried to comfort her. "Hey Tiffy, don't worry so much, okay? Think about it, Charmine doesn't have a company to represent her or a team of professionals to back her up, let alone a professional photoshop artist. With those set of photos, Charmine is digging her own grave. You'll conquer the Guci's editorial showdown without a doubt. You'll definitely have the world by your feet when you win your third consecutive Top Model!"

"I hope so..."

Tiffany was still on the edge of her seat and said, "Keep a lookout on Charmine. We still can't let our guards down. If you notice anything suspicious, report it to me immediately."

"Sure."

Tiffany hung up the call, her brows still furrowed. She looked worried.

She knew Charmine too well. She would never make any move that was not beneficial to her. There must have been a reason why she posted those photos.

Yet, she just could not figure out why. At this point, the safest bet was to get Charmine out of the entertainment business.

Her eyes sparkled, and she quickly dialed Julian's number.

On the other side, she heard Julian's deep and sexy voice, "Tiffany, you're up early."

"Yeah, I'm worried about you. I had a dream last night. You were back with my sister and didn't like me anymore." Tiffany's voice was full of worry.

Julian tried to comfort her. "Dummy, I won't ever fall for someone like her, all high and mighty. My heart belongs to you, little pumpkin."

"Thanks, Julian darling, I really needed to hear that. I feel much better now."

Tiffany's voice turned soft as she asked, "What do you plan to do to my sister? Do you think she's testing you?"

"Ha! A woman who has had an abortion wants to put on an innocent act? Don't worry, I'll keep things together for the sake of the diamond mine and her company shares. Let's just get her to sign the papers first." 2

Just the thought of that woman filled him with disgust.

Tiffany softly mumbled an 'okay' and said, "You gotta go prepare yourself and make her marry you soon before someone sweeps her off her feet. There are other rich guys trying to court her because of her money. At least we treat her as family. We won't hurt her unless we really have to."

"Alright. I know what to do." Julian hung up. His lips curled in disdain.

That stuck up woman had suitors? Were they blind?

Tiffany was right, he should get the diamond mine and 15% shares as soon as possible.

Once Charmine was married to him, she would be rendered powerless and turned into a plain old housewife, a sitting duck at their mercy.

He dialled Oliver's number and ordered him, "Get me one set of the Jade Palace's breakfast special and meet me at Violet Villa's basement parking lot."

At Violet Villa, Charmine was awakened by her landline ringing.

She wanted to ignore it but the ringing was like a fly buzzing in her ear. She just could not fall back to sleep.

She reluctantly got up and picked up the phone.

“What’s up?” She yawned as she spoke.

On the other side, Kay sounded very concerned. “Boss Jordan, did you really post those photos? Do you know that the whole world is laughing at you now? They say you put on ninety-nine layers of makeup on the runway and are a fraud and phony that has deceived everyone.”

Chapter 92

“The Guci editorial showdown is in two days. Aren’t you going to do anything? I’m at your service for whatever you need at any moment. I’m sure I can take your photos a hundred times better.”

Charmine yawned again. “Is this why you called me this early?”

“Of course! We feel you and are angry for you. You’re drop-dead gorgeous, the netizens have no right to criticize you! You’re our one and only boss, so nobody can chew you out like that!” Kay was obviously outraged by the situation.

Cool as a cucumber, Charmine slowly rubbed her eyes. “I spoke to Eric last night. This was indeed my idea, I’ve got this. You’ll know why I did what I did during the showdown. Pass this down to everyone. Don’t interfere in this matter and stop worrying about me.”

She hung up as soon as she finished that sentence.

She had lost her desire to sleep, so she took out her phone to check her social media accounts.

On Twitter, the situation has exploded beyond control.

Whether or not Tiffany had instigated this, many still jumped on the bandwagon to tear Charmine apart. Some even shared Tiffany’s photos and commented.

[Diamond boss, look at our Tiff’s beauty. She can obviously crush you with her charms.]

[Stop selling diamonds and take some time off to take care of yourself. You’re a mess!]

[Was Chanel the peak of your career? Or were you just catfishing? Did you hire someone else to be you?]

[You should have some professional ethics! These photos are a disgrace to the industry!]

[I can't believe Guci is signing you as one of their brand's ambassadors. They must be blind!

Every single comment she read was derogatory.

'What happened to Charmine' is currently the number one trending topic on social media.

Charmine flung herself onto the couch, her luscious red lips grinning.

Everything was going as planned.

Let us see if Tiffany and her fans will still be riding that high horse.

The doorbell rang.

'Who would that be?' she wondered.

Charmine made her way to the door and peered through the peephole. Standing there was none other than a dashing, well-dressed Julian.

She could not help but think about what happened last night.

Julian had a bit of a crisis. It was supposed to be a simple live show with him trying out Luwak coffee and grinding the beans live. He managed to turn things around with his wits, receiving praises from netizens and entrepreneurs.

He was too good looking, like your typical handsome and charismatic CEO. Every move he made was straight out of a magazine photoshoot, swaying fans off their feet.

In just 24 hours, Julian's screensavers and photos were all over the internet. Netizens were practically begging him to resign as CEO and become an actor instead.

Charmine sneered. He had just resolved a crisis last night and was now here to show off?

She had little to no interest in dealing with this prick, so she nonchalantly walked toward her couch and lied down.

Julian was not going to give up without a fight. He kept ringing the doorbell.

Failure was not an option.

He intended to make Charmine obey his every command, just like before.

Chapter 93

The doorbell chime kept repeating. Charmine was annoyed. Staring at the tub that she had just bathed in, she decided to do something.

Crack. The door opened. Julian was initially impatient but his eyes sparkled when he saw her.

She was in a pretty, white sundress that drew his gaze to her long, fair legs. The fine, white silk dress complimented the pink tinge of her glowing, lily-white skin. She had the ideal figure that all men longed for.

“Charmine, you...” He was amazed that it had taken her only five years to turn over a new leaf.

He wanted to ask her why she had taken so long to open the door for him, but...

Splash! A bucket of water was thrown at him.

“What the hell are you doing!” His face darkened.

“Are you blind? Can’t you see I’m just emptying my bucket?” said Charmine while throwing the pail aside, dusting off her hands.

“You did that on purpose! I’m here to send you breakfast but this is how you treat me! Do you know how much time I’ve spent queuing up for this?”

“So? Do you think I’d even care? Yes, I did that on purpose. Hit me if you dare!” boasted Charmine while leaning lazily against the door.

Julian was mad. He felt like biting Charmine’s head off but his rationale held him back.

“I know you still care about what happened five years ago. It was my fault. I want to make it up to you,” he said.

“You rejected the bouquet I sent the other day. That’s why I’m here to send you breakfast. Can’t you feel my sincerity?” explained Julian whole-heartedly.

Charmine gave a short, mirthless laugh and said, “Sincerity? I thought you were always a heartless idiot for such a long time. I feel disgusted now seeing you here trying to get me to pity you. Look at you; your whole body reeked of sluttiness. Perhaps you’ve spent too much time in your sl*thole? You should clean yourself up so that you don’t spread your germs to others.”

Sharper than any two-edged sword, her words slashed sharply into Julian.

“Enough, Charmine! Don’t be a shameless rat! Do you know how everyone’s ranting about you online? You’re not even one-tenth comparable to Tiffany!” He grabbed her hand forcefully. He had never been ridiculed before and was now mad.

“You’re a woman who has had an abortion. I n the entertainment industry, you’re just a roastee. Aside from me, there’s no one else who likes you!”

Charmine was about to fight back but a guttural voice interrupted her. “Who told you that no one likes her?” It was Anthony, walking toward them.

The Sun’s rays pervaded his brawny figure, weaving such a royal and charismatic aura over him. With four men in suits behind him, Anthony looked like a king on his throne.

Looking in shock, Julian asked, “Why are you here, Mr. Bailey?”

Anthony was well-known in Burlington as h e owned half the business in the city. He was known as an unobtrusive man who was always an absentee for all possible events.

‘But why’s he here?’

Anthony threw a cold shoulder to Julian as his focus was drawn to Charmine.

He was captivated by her.

She dressed modestly but coquettishly in a fine, white silk sundress, leaning against the door with her flaxen hair.

Chapter 94

How dare she put on such a coquettish dress i n front of the other man?

Feeling displeasure, Anthony strode forward while pushing Julian aside to cover Charmine’s body with his.

Charmine felt embarrassed that he was doing this in front of others.

Just when Charmine was about to say something, Anthony pulled her into his arms and threatened Julian, “She’s my woman. If I find you trying to harass her again, your family will be cast out from Burlington!”

Julian was shocked and found his threats unbelievable.

His mind could not stop thinking about them.

(Charmine is with Anthony? He’s even willing to dash all on regardless of the perils just to protect her.’

Meanwhile, Anthony shouted at the four men he brought with him, “What the hell are you guys doing? Shouldn’t you all be introducing yourselves?”

The command came like a bolt from the blue as the four men quickly bowed accordingly, followed by their introductions.

“Good day, Ms. Jordan, I’m Tanya Cullen, the main chef from a three-star Michelin restaurant in France. Today, I’ll be the head chef preparing your breakfast.”

“A pleasure to meet you Ms. Jordan, I am Dylan Wood main chef from Ocean Blumenthal. I will be the sous chef, assisting Tanya Cullen.”

“Greetings, Ms. Jordan. I’m…”

Julian was shocked because they were all well-known chefs that could only be hired at a price of at least six figures.

He could not believe that Anthony would spend such an amount on Charmine just to prepare breakfast for her.

The words he said earlier toward Charmine—‘no one will treat you good except me’ — had turned into nothing but a joke.

Charmine was shocked by Anthony’s action.

‘Did he bring all these people over just to defend me? Is he that rich to hire so many people?’

While Charmine was confused with his actions, Anthony told Charmine softly, “Just let them know if you have anything on your mind that you would like to eat and they’ll prepare it for you.”

On the other side, he stared at Julian and threatened him, “Are you going to leave now or are you expecting me to send you home?”

Terrified by his threats, Julian apologized because he knew that he could not take the risk.

“I’m sorry. I didn’t know she was Mr. Bailey’s woman. I’m sorry for the inconvenience that has been caused. I’ll take my leave now.”

He left immediately with a long face.

He could not believe such an arrogant and domineering lady who had gone through an abortion could get Anthony to be so affectionate of her. 1

This was why she returned his offers with a bucket of bathwater—she was with Anthony!

What made Charmine so attractive!

While walking beside Julian, his personal assistant asked worriedly, “What should we do? If they’re together, we’ll never be able to get our hands on the diamond mine and shares. Besides, Charmine and Tiffany are going to have a competition soon. If Anthony is going to help Charmine, I’m afraid Tiffany will...”

Julian felt uneasy as he left.

‘Tiffany must be outstanding enough to gain the Jordans’ support. However, with Charmine’s current state, she’s clearly taking advantage of Anthony to defeat Tiffany and me. No way, I must find a way to stop Charmine from getting into a better position.’

He looked to his assistant and coldly instructed, “Send the photos in my e-drive to the media!”

Chapter 95

The four chefs started to prepare breakfast in the kitchen shortly after Julian left the mansion.

As Anthony grabbed Charmine’s waist and pulled her to him, he swiftly entered the house and closed the door behind them.

At this moment, Charmine was confused.

She thought Anthony would have most definitely heard their conversation accidentally. However, he was acting as if nothing had happened.

‘What if he actually didn’t even hear it?’ She convinced herself to overlook this.

“Thanks for helping me out during the event. You may ask the chefs to leave now.” She moved away from his embrace and thanked him coldly.

“Who says I’m here to help you?” he said calmly.

Charmine was shocked by his words and wondered if he was not here to help, then why would he be here in the first place?

“I hired these chefs just to make you breakfast and just coincidentally came across an opportunity to help you to get rid of that b*itch,” said Anthony as he smirked.

“If you’re so touched by my actions, I wouldn’t mind if you give yourself to me.”

His words left Charmine speechless as she told him not to be so narcissistic.

While she tried to undress to return the outfit to Anthony, Anthony teased her, "Are you sure you want to undress in front of me? You're trying to seduce me, right?"

She was totally outraged by his words.

"Just you wait," she claimed as she quickly went back into the mansion to get changed.

In just a moment, she came out with a chiffon top and a pair of jeans.

Anthony's face darkened when he saw her.

He did not expect that such a casual, unrevealing outfit could be presented in such an enticing way on her. The jeans did not just make her legs look longer, but they also enhanced the curves of her booty.

For the first time, he had evil thoughts of keeping Charmine all to himself. However, all of that was crushed when Charmine sent him away by passing his coat back to him.

"I don't need your kindness. Keep it to yourself. I don't like to owe anyone favors," Charmine said with a cold and monotonous voice.

Anthony felt disheartened because he really loved her but all she wanted was for him to leave. He looked into her eyes and said, "I'm willing to treat you nice so you don't have to feel like you owe me anything. If you feel sorry for me, you can just treat me like how I treat you."

"Anthony, how can you say that? You should have known since I've rejected you since the first time we met," Charmine shrieked.

"Yes, you have the right to reject me. However, I also have the right to chase after you too. I've been enduring the sadness after your rejection. Can't you just bear with my pursuit toward you?" Anthony blurted out confidently as if he was actually the victim.

Charmine was annoyed and decided to ignore him.

As she sat down on the couch, she voiced up, "It's up to you on what you want to do. I'm not going to eat the breakfast that has been prepared."

Anthony was irritated and doubted just how strong her determination was.

While the four chefs were presenting the dish accordingly, on the table were seagull egg fried sandwiches paired with Scotland lobster and crab and served with expensive truffles. There was also fried spaghetti with sirloin steak paired with rare caviar sauce.

It was an expensive and sumptuous meal.

She could even smell the fresh aroma of the milk as they poured it out from the carton.

Chapter 96

After they had finished serving all the dishes, the four men began to leave one by one.

Anthony spoke up, "Ms. Jordan, your meal is ready."

"I'm not eating. No matter what you say, it won't make a difference. You better just give up now!" said Charmine firmly. She needed to strengthen her resolve to force Anthony to retreat.

At that moment, a soft and adorable voice could be heard, "Mommy, mommy..." It was closely followed by the swaying body of little Chris Bailey running in from outside. With a leap, he landed into Charmine's embrace.

Charmine furrowed her brow. "Momo, what are you doing here?"

"Oh, Momo woke up and daddy wasn't there. I heard daddy was coming to look for you so Momo came here too," Chris said pitifully while his chubby little hand held onto her arm.

"Woo, waa... Momo is hungry. I haven't eaten anything for the whole day and my tummy is rumbling. It's making a grrrrr, grrrrr, grrrrr sound," wailed Chris.

"Oh dear, why didn't you have anything to eat before leaving the house? Luckily, there's breakfast here," Charmine said while lifting Chris and placing him in front of the dining table.

Chris kept holding onto Charmine's hand while declaring, "I want mommy to eat with me!"

"I'm sorry, my little Momo. Mommy isn't hungry right now so you'll have to eat by yourself," Charmine replied whilst stroking his head.

Chris started pulling on her hand firmly, dragging her so that she would sit next to him. He placed a breakfast set in front of Charmine and pleaded with a soft and endearing voice, "Mummy, please eat with me. Momo is five this year but has never eaten breakfast with my mommy. Momo wants to experience what it's like to have a mom. Please, I'm asking you just this once."

The whole time Momo spoke, he continued to tug on Charmine's hand, entreating her with a pair of round, sparkling eyes.

How could Charmine resist? She could only say, "Of course."

With that, Charmine miraculously started to have breakfast with Chris. Watching the scene in front of him, the corner of Anthony's lips slowly curled up, reveling in his success. 'This ultimate weapon worked. Now we can get down to working on the real order of business.'

Anthony took out his cellphone and pretended to fiddle around with it. However, he had turned on the camera and took a photo of Charmine from afar. Seeing her seated at the table with her side profile facing him, he could see that her facial features were extremely pleasing while her figure was show-stopping. It was early in the morning, so her hair was undone and swayed freely. She gave off an aura that was both relaxed and inviting. Any casual shot of her resulted in a masterpiece. Her beauty was captivating.

Anthony found a few angles to snap from; sometimes zooming in for a close-up, sometimes a wide-angled view. Within a short amount of time, he ended up with close to a dozen shots. Flipping through his photos, his eyes were full of admiration and adoration.

It was a moment before he sent the photos to Luke.

[Absolutely exquisite. I've discovered a vision of perfection.]

Luke responded. [Yes.]

At that very instance, a hand suddenly appeared and fiercely snatched the cellphone out of his hand. Anthony scowled. "Charmine..."

'When did she get here, right by my side? How could I not have noticed...' Anthony wondered.

Charmine replied to Luke using his phone.

[There's no need to return.]

At the same time, she deleted all the photos and erased all contents of the cellphone's photo gallery.

Anthony frowned and tried to explain, "Charmine, I'm trying to help you. You have to believe that with my company's professional photo retoucher, I can help you turn the situation around."

"Thank you for your kind intentions. However, I really don't need help turning the situation around. Besides, you're the dignified head of the Bailey family, do you really think I need assistance?" Charmine gently returned the cellphone to him.

Anthony furrowed his brow deeply, thinking to himself, 'What is it about her tone of voice that makes it seem like she's implying I'm a n idiot? Furthermore, with her current state of affairs, the entire internet is going crazy. Does she really not need a complete reversal?'

Chapter 97

Charmine obviously did not want to speak any further and solemnly said "Bring little Meghan home. I slept too late last night and need to catch up on sleep." After she said that, she took a step toward her room.

When she walked past Chris, she could not help but stop to persuade him. "Momo, please be a good boy. Look here, can you see that auntie has dark eye circles now? I really need a nap. Can you be good for me and go home first?"

"Ok! I'll listen to mommy!" Surprisingly, Chris agreed with her. In fact, he carried the dishes toward the kitchen and said while walking, " Mommy, sleep as much as you want. Daddy and I will wash the dishes then return home. I promise we won't bother you!"

Charmine raised her eyebrows, wondering, ' When did Chris become such an obedient child?'

Anthony was also a little perplexed but did not think too much of it. Turning to Charmine, he said, "Get some rest, we'll tidy up then head out." He walked toward the kitchen to help Chris wash the dishes.

Charmine gazed at their silhouettes, one tall and the other short. She could not help but feel the long-lost feeling of home coming from the kitchen. It had been such a long time since she had felt like this, not since five years ago.

She stepped into her room and lay down in her bed. Looking up at the ceiling, a memory from five years ago appeared in her thoughts unbidden. Five years ago, Julian Cabell invited her to the Royal Banquet Bar saying that he wanted to give her a surprise. When she arrived, the first person she met there instead was Tiffany Jordan. After having a glass of wine with Tiffany, she fell unconscious.

When she regained consciousness, she was already lying in a bed in Phoenix Hotel. Moreover, she had lost her virginity. Julian laid right next to her. At the time, she really thought that she gave her first time to Julian. However, she found out later that she had fallen into a trap set by Tiffany!

All these years, she worked really hard to make herself forget and stop herself from thinking too much about what had happened. However, these days she found herself feeling more resentful toward the man in bed with her. If it was not for him, she would never have been disgraced. Maybe, she would not be so resistant and wary of men's

advances toward her. A man that could force himself onto another person was definitely not a good person!

The sound of the gate gently closing could be heard from outside her room. Charmine started to collect her thoughts and took out her cellphone to send a text to Kay.

“Continue to investigate what happened five years ago. Make sure the investigation is conducted thoroughly!”

“Ok.”

On the other side, Anthony really did not hear a word Julian said. After bringing Chris out of Garden Villa, Anthony turned to him and asked, “Why were you so obedient today?”

“Daddy, couldn’t you tell that mommy was very angry with you?” Chris responded.

“Besides, you couldn’t even come up with a good response. Mommy must think you’re stupid for sure. The more you speak, the more you might make a mistake. In this sort of situation, it’s best you don’t do anything.”

Anthony coughed twice and thought, ‘Even my son can tell that Charmine thinks I’m stupid?’

Chris also reminded his father by saying, “I think Daddy needs to think carefully about why mommy wanted to release those photos and also why she didn’t want your help. With everyone making fun of her now, if you can understand her motives and support her with encouraging words, you’ll have a unique place in her heart!”

Anthony carried Chris into the car and while driving, he pondered deeply. Charmine’s Guci photo should have been enough to destroy Tiffany’s. Moreover, the sales must have doubled. No one could have imagined that such a mess could have resulted from this...

Suddenly, he zoned in on the keyword ‘sales’ and his eyes swiftly glazed over.

Chapter 98

“That’s it! So this was Charmine’s true motive. Charmine is really something special, for her to win with a seemingly bad strategy. That’s impressive!’ Anthony stopped the car by the side of the road and took out his cellphone to send Charmine a text.

[I will be waiting to see your surprise victory as the underdog the day after tomorrow. When it happens, I’ll have a special gift basket prepared to congratulate you.)

On her bed, Charmine was playing with her cellphone. Her group of close friends were texting her on WhatsApp, attempting to help her make a winning comeback. There were still some amongst them who hoped that she would give up on this treacherous game.

Claire sent a barrage of text messages to Charmine.

[Charmine, have you read what the public opinion about it is on the internet? Can you see the influence HollyOak Entertainment has? Everybody is praising Tiffany and heaping abuse on your photos. Your hope of starting your own online business is never going to happen now.]

(If you sign with HollyOak Entertainment, I guarantee that I'll make you a bigger star than Tiffany Jordan. Furthermore, the precarious situation you're currently in is something we can help you solve. Regarding profit sharing, we can discuss that

matter with you at a later date. Apart from me, there's no one

else who can save you!]

Charmine curled her red lips in disgust. She could not be bothered to respond to Claire. "There is no point in responding to narcissistic people. The best way to deal with them is to beat them with pure ability!" she thought to herself. The day after tomorrow would be the real competition and she would be there to teach them all a lesson. She was going to show them what actual talent and skill looked like.

However, her agent Eric also texted her.

(Charmine, what on earth are you thinking? The day after tomorrow is D-day.)

Charmine furrowed her brows, replying to Eric.

[I truly want to let you in on my plan but there's too much on the line. Until the matter is over, I have to keep it a secret. I'm sorry but I can't risk telling you what's going on right now.]

[However, there's one thing you need to remember. I, Charmine Jordan, would never do anything that could jeopardize myself. All you need to do is wait calmly and everything will be fine. If you really feel like you can't sit still and do nothing, head out and pay off some internet trolls. Get them to attack my photos more vigorously. The more venom they put into defacing my photos, the better.]

Eric had no response to that. Had her reputation not suffered enough by now? Even though he believed in Charmine's

ability, with the way the situation was now... How else could he turn it around?

Oh well, Charmine is a willful gal. Even if she doesn't succeed, she can retire from the industry and manage the diamond mines. It's three hundred million tons of raw diamond to be mined,' Eric thought to himself. He no longer cared.

Once Charmine was done typing, she sighed deeply. She could not believe that no one could see through her ruse. 'What about the big boss?' she wondered. As she sighed, she received a WhatsApp notification.

[I will be waiting to see your surprise victory as the underdog the day after tomorrow. When it happens, I'll have a special gift basket prepared to congratulate you.]

Charmine frowned. Anthony had actually figured out what her master plan was. Could it be because of what she said earlier? Had that revealed her intentions? It turned out that he was not as dumb as she thought. 1

Charmine started to type in response, but she barely managed a few words before a memory from five years ago emerged in her mind.

Five years ago, she lost her virginity, fell pregnant, and suffered a miscarriage...

Right now, the development of her relationship with Anthony and Chris did not seem like a good sign. Charmine mulled over it for a moment and decided to erase everything she had just

written. She tossed her cellphone aside and slowly closed her eyes. She could see that Anthony was treating her well. What on earth did she have to do for him to give up on her? Should she tell him about the events that happened five years ago?

Chapter 99

Chamine had been thinking about this for a full day. Five years ago, she had already developed a 'tough as nails' personality. However, she was actually quite hesitant and confused now. She put her phone on flight mode and laid in bed, quietly pondering

By contrast, after Julian left Violet Villa, he immediately ordered Oliver, his personal assistant, to leak a bunch of photos. All of them were ugly photos of Charmine from five years ago!

In the photos, Charmine was most probably in junior high, so her dress sense was very far-out and non-mainstream. She had an edgy, spiky hairstyle and wore heavy eye makeup. In some of them, she appeared to be in high school during her gold-worshiper phase. She exclusively wore shimmery, sparkly, and shiny outfits. Everything she wore during that period looked terrible and unfashionable.

Furthermore, the Charmine back then always hung her head down low. She always carried an aura of helplessness wherever she went, her features extremely plain. Amongst the leaked photos, there was one that showed Charmine crawling on all fours like a dog after losing a bet to some ladies. 1

In a flash, the headline 'Charmine Underwent Plastic Surgery' spread like wildfire.

'Charmine Crawling Like A Dog' was a close second.

The entire webspace exploded with heated online discussions.

[It's no surprise that the photos from her photoshoot were so mediocre. She's not very good-looking in reality!]

[It's hard to imagine, but she was really ugly before. She definitely had surgery done for her current face.]

[Plastic surgery! Even if she looks pretty, it's all fake! Liar! I regret ever supporting her!]

[She acts like she's a bigshot when she used to crawl like a dog? There's no way she's cut out to be a supermodel.]

(Her face is fake, her fashionista persona is fake. Is there anything about her that's even real?)

(That's her real face in the leaked photos? She's so ugly! So ugly!)

It only took a day for Charmine to be fully discredited by netizens, who slagged her by saying she was a fraud. Her reputation was quickly destroyed. Her fanbase which she built up with a lot of hard effort was halved in less than half a day's time. Even Chanel, the jewelry brand she endorsed, saw their sales drop drastically.

Tiffany saw all this happening and was overjoyed! The showdown was tomorrow and with the damage dealt through these leaked photos, Charmine did not stand a chance of

beating her at all. With all the negative rumors circulating, how could Charmine compete against her? How could Charmine continue to receive Anthony's affection? However, to avoid any complications from arising, Tiffany sent a text to her manager, Veronica.

(Use all the cash you need to keep Charmine's leaked photos circulating on the media space until the day after the showdown.)

In the middle of the night, Charmine was woken up by a loud knocking sound coming from her front door. She was thinking about her situation with Anthony earlier and had fallen asleep without realizing it. She groggily got out of bed and walked to open the door. Her agent, Eric, walked in and saw her sluggish demeanor. He frowned anxiously and said, "While you were sleeping, another problem arose." Finishing his sentence, he quickly shoved his cellphone into her hands.

Charmine looked to see that the internet and social media were overwhelmed with netizens shaming her. The leaked photos from her past had been posted everywhere.

The image now presented to the netizens of her was that of an ugly and fake plastic witch.

Her eyelids fluttered slightly, a sneer creeping up onto her lips. Those photos were taken by Julian when she was still pursuing him. Julian told her then that the photos were precious memories of them but now, he was using them to destroy her...

Eric saw that Charmine was speechless and solemnly asked her, "Are you finally feeling fearful? A sense of regret?"

"Regret?"

Charmine composed herself, her red lips curving up into a beautiful smile.

Chapter 100

"It's only a bunch of people feeling sorry for that scumbag man so they went a little overboard. As for the photos, there's no need to worry about them for now."

"No need to worry?" Eric questioned her comment with a scowl.

Charmine nodded. "That's right, allow the keyboard warriorst o continue slandering me. The more, the merrier. All this will help with the showdown in two days."

Eric looked pained as he furrowed his brow and said, "I'm sorry but I'm your agent so you better tell me what your plan i s. Otherwise, it'll be hard for me to carry out my duties if the current situation continues to get out of hand."

"You're not as clever as you appear to be. Ponder on the principle, 'challenges precede success'. As Tiffany and Julian are the ones responsible for leaking these photos, I promise that I'll make them regret their actions deeply one day," Charmine said carelessly with unshakable confidence.

Eric was not reassured by that. Of course, he knew about the principle of challenges precede success'. However, Charmine's name had been smeared to the ground because of the scandal. How could she achieve success after this? As for Charmine's Guci editorial, even though it was stunning, it would be accused of plagiarizing Tiffany's once it was

published. 'How could she achieve success after this?' Eric once again thought to himself. Now with the 'ugly photo scandal, Charmine's career would go down in history as a sob story. 2

Charmine saw that Eric was still worried, so she gently patted his shoulder and said, "Relax, I promise that on the day of the showdown, I'll definitely obtain victory. If I lose,

I'll immediately go into the diamond-selling business and be a good diamond mine manager. I won't seek revenge in my lifetime if I lose. Does that sound alright to you?" ,

Eric had known her for a long time. He knew her priority had always been on getting revenge. Settling the score had always been her number one focus since the beginning. However, she was wagering her chance of getting revenge on this bet? It looked like she was extremely confident that winning the showdown was within her grasp.

His curiosity was piqued. Under these conditions, how could Charmine still achieve victory?

Meanwhile, somewhere in Bailey Corporation, Chris held onto Anthony's hand, swinging it around. "Daddy, the way mommy is being scolded on the internet is really vicious. If this continues, she is going to lose the Guci editorial showdown. You have to think of a way to help mommy!" Chris's pleading sounded like he was close to tears, full of worry."

Anthony seemed unruffled by the situation and gently stroked his little head. He reassured him by saying, "Don't worry, have

you forgotten what mommy said before? All of this is a part of her plan and we'll have a good show to watch in two days."

"Woah! Really? Are you sure?" Chris struggled to believe his father and looked suspiciously at him.

Napping in the corner was Nial who overheard the conversation and looked toward Anthony with shining eyes to ask, "A good show? What kind of show is it?"

Anthony replied mysteriously. "It's a secret."

Chris and Nial were both rendered speechless. They were unbearably impatient to find out but they knew Anthony's personality well. If he was not willing to talk about something, nothing could make him budge. Hence, the boys could only

stargaze into the night sky while waiting for the day of the showdown to arrive.

Over the next two days, Charmine's ugly photos had spread across the entire internet and was still one of the most searched internet topics.

'Ugly like Charmine' had become one of the worst insults you could use on someone. Everyone was waiting to hear a statement from Charmine but it was as though she had disappeared into thin air. There was not even the slightest hint of her whereabouts.

In the blink of an eye, the day of the Guci editorial showdown arrived. Even though the internet was abuzz with Charmine's scandal, the magazines had been printed and needed to be

sold. In any case, if Charmine's Avocado Green collection sold well, that meant profits would be gained. Moreover, this would probably be able to quell some of the heat focused on Charmine.

In the entertainment industry, there was no bad news as any news is good news. The worst thing that could happen would be no news as it indicated a lack of interest. Hence, with this in mind, Guci released Charmine and Tiffany's photo editorials at the crack of dawn. Guci even launched the sale of both collections in the marketplace.

The epic showdown between Charmine and Tiffany had officially begun!