CHOSEN 301

Chapter 301

"Chloe, your phone's been buzzing in your bag. Something up?"

Hannah, noticing Chloe's discomfort, expertly steered the conversation elsewhere.

Chloe's awkward expression faded gradually.

"Oh, let me check."

She knew who the caller was, Hannah just gave her a chance to divert her attention.

Right now, she has no idea how pissed the Summers family might be.

But she had to go there later nonetheless.

So with a hint of sadness flashing across her face, she glanced at Damon standing across from her.

After dinner, Chloe and Damon left together after turning down their grandmother's warm invitation to stay the night.

Is there something you want to tell me?"

Just as they stepped outside, Damon's deep voice broke the silence.

Chloe stopped in her tracks, "Damon, could you lend me a car?"

Damon's forehead twitched, "I could give it to you if you want, but what are you planning to do with it?"

Chloe took a deep breath, "I need to go over there."

"I'm coming with you."

Before Chloe could finish, Damon cut her off coldly.

Clearly, he'd already guessed what Chloe was about to say.

Chloe's heart clenched. "You don't need to get involved, I can handle it."

"They've obviously got a beef with you, you think I'd just let you go alone?"

Chloe held his hand and murmured soothingly, "They won't hurt me, I can protect myself."

Damon stared at her intensely, not uttering a word.

Clearly, he didn't take rejection well.

After pondering for a while, Chloe gave in, "Alright, you can go with me, but I'm going in alone. You wait in the car. If anything happens, I'll give you a call. I don't want to give them an excuse to mess with you."

Damon's expression remained cold, but he seemed slightly moved by her last words.

"Fine." He said coldly, clearly doing it for Chloe's sake.

"What kind of car do you want?"

"Any cheap car will do."

"No." He replied bluntly.

Damon took out his car keys and pressed a button toward the car parked at the entrance.

"The cheapest one's this one I drove here. It's worth three million, is that okay?"

Chloe chuckled inwardly.

"...Alright."

"Get in."

It was tense in the living room.

Carolina had left everything for Nick to handle. After waiting for Chloe all afternoon without any results, she went to her room to rest with a gloomy face.

Nick was furious, and Viviana, sitting beside him, also looked rather upset.

They had been calling since the morning and only got through at noon. Chloe said she'd be right over, only to have them wait all day.

Damon parked the car outside the gate. Nick immediately jumped up from the sofa and bolted out the door as soon as he heard the engine outside.

Just as Chloe was getting out of the passenger seat.

Nick's gaze immediately swept over the car Chloe was in, and his brow furrowed tightly.

"You irresponsible brat, do you know how long we've been waiting for you?!"

Chloe walked up the steps, exuding an air of arrogance and indifference, her commanding aura was immediately palpable.

Chapter 302

Chloe strutted up the stairs, radiating an intimidating vibe.

She shot him a cold glance, then stepped into the house without a second look.

Chloe's calm indifference made Nick look like a fool compared to his rage

By the time he returned to the living room with a stony face, Chloe was already lounging on the sofa.

Outside, it was patch black. Inside, the spacious living room was brightly hit, accentuating the opulence.

Chloe sat on the sofa, clad in a brick-red jumpsuit with her hair neatly tied back. With an arm draped over the armrest, lips pursed, and brows furrowed, her expression was unreadable.

Silence had fallen in the living room at some unknown point, and the atmosphere was growing increasingly stifling

Finally-

"Give me your reason"

Her icy, detached voice cut through the silence like a sharp and forceful knife.

"It's Keira's birthday in a few days. Of course I have to prepare a gift for her!"

Chloe's gaze suddenly turned frosty A chill welled up in her heart, but she kept her temper in check

She leaned back on the sofa, slowly raised her head, and looked at Nick, the corner of her mouth curling up slightly

This tiny gesture was filled with sarcasm.

"So, you're using my company as a gift for her birthday? That's your reason?"

Her words, dripping with arrogance and sarcasm, deepened the fury and resentment on Nick's face.

"Keira is also your sister. You've bullied her time and time again, each time worse than the last. You even forced her to kneel before you in public. Are you even human?!

Ever thought about the fact that she's a public figure? An important artiste?! You've caused so much damage to the company by tormenting her. And you're unrepentant, we can't afford your antics, nor can we afford to lose face! There's no need for you to stay here. I'll sort out the plane tickets, you can go wherever you want. You have to make up for the company's losses, so you need to leave your company to Keira as an apology!"

With a cold laugh, Chloe tossed the magazine in her hands onto the coffee table and stood up.

Her tall figure seemed even taller, her oppressive aura even stronger.

"There are many people more talented and capable than her. If you guys want to invest in her, that's your choice! You have no right to make decisions for me. Dream on/"

Chloe was livid and radiated a chilling aura,

That was the only thing her mother left her. She couldn't believe they would sink this low!

Chapter 303

After a moment, she suddenly let out a cold laugh, "Since you guys want to pick a fight, then let's do the math You guys are so obsessed with Pulse Entertainment? Have you ever thought about if it would still be standing without my mom? And all the companies and businesses registered under her name were her dowry to me! Who's got all those assets now?"

Chloe paused, her sharp gaze sweeping over the two people sitting in front of her.

She didn't miss the subtle change on Viviana's face.

Despite Viviana's attempt to mask It, Chloe had seen through her long ago.

All these years, she never believed her mom was truly gone from this world.

Even if she had jumped into the sea back then, there should have been something left behind, but there wasn't.

She never gave up looking for her mom, she investigated every lead she could find. The matter of the dowry her mom left her was recorded by the lawyer from the very beginning, so it wasn't hard to find out if she wanted to

Upon hearing this, Nick's face changed dramatically.

"A dowry is something you get when you get married! Before then...

"Before then, those are not yours either!" Chloe cut Nick off resolutely.

"You think Pulse Entertainment is the be–all and end–all for the Summers family, and Keira is the apple of the Summers family's eye? Ok, since you dare make a move on my company, let's see! You can

also feel what it's like to lose something precious!

Not only will I make you lose it, but I also want you to slowly experience the loss in your struggle!

Chloe's eyes were cold, and her was voice resounding.

Both Nick and Viviana were taken aback by Chloe's momentum.

The atmosphere was incredibly tense.

"You really are shameless!"

Another voice suddenly came, filled with familiar toughness and authority.

Chloe turned her head and saw Carolina standing at the railing on the second floor, looking down at Chloe from her high position. She then walked down the stairs and slowly approached

Chloe.

Her sharp eyes sized up Chloe, resting on her neck.

Narrowing her eyes, Carolina suddenly let out a cold laugh, "You're becoming more and more brazen, you used to be somewhat restrained because of Lance, but now you can't even bother to hide it? Don't regret it when you've ruined your reputation!"

Chloe understood what Carolina was saying, but she didn't understand why she suddenly said it.

It was laughable that, as an elder, she was saying such things to her own granddaughter.

"You can rest assured! I don't need you to worry about my business, you better save your energy and focus on your company and Keira."

Carolina's face gradually darkened, "Seems like you're determined to go your own way, huh?" Chapter 304

Chloe sneered, "I hadn't been stubborn, I'd be six feet under by now!"

Who offered her a helping hand during those tough years?

Carolina squinted at Chloe, her confidence making her subconsciously believe her words.

Before, she hadn't noticed her much. But now she couldn't simply ignore her

Young, cunning, and not to be underestimated.

Just like her mom, there was a kind of confidence flowing in her blood, always making her look strong

She didn't mind this character. With her abilities, she wouldn't be a burden to the company

But the Summers family had Keira.

Keira was the lucky charm of the Summers family, and Chloe, well, she was just bad luck for Keira

She couldn't let her stay in the house

Thinking of this, Carolina snickered, "Let's see what you've got!

Chloe raised her eyebrows, her eyes was sharp and filled with coldness and sarcasm

"Well, just wait and see then!"

After she finished, her gaze fell on Viviana, "You better return everything that's mine, or I'll make you pay doubler

"You're crossing the line!"

Chloe's arrogant and rude attitude infuriated Nick. He smacked the coffee table and stood up abruptly

Chloe, unfazed, raised her eyebrows, completely ignoring Nick's fury, with her gaze brushing over Viviana's head.

"Next time you call me for a meeting, think whether I'll agree first, don't keep pushing my buttons."

Chloe chuckled.

The door opened and then closed with a bang, leaving the spacious living room without Chloe's presence.

But that chilling voice seemed to still echo in the room.

"Do you all know who's the toughest woman in this city?"

It's her.

That was common knowledge.

She thought she was misunderstood before, but now, she couldn't just carry the blame for nothing.

A glint of coldness flashed in Chloe's eyes.

"Sis...you...you're back?"

A voice filled with a bit of fear and surprise came, as Chloe looked up and saw Keira walking over and affectionately clinging to Lance's arm. The lights outside the door were bright, so Chloe easily saw the vulnerable sadness, disappointment, and timidity on Keira's face.

Seeing Chloe, she looked scared and clung tightly to Lance.

"Chloe, why are you here? Where've you been? You didn't answer your phone or messages, don't you know that makes people worry?"

Lance gently patted Keira's shoulder, looking up at Chloe standing on the stairs with his eyes full of reproach.

Chloe frowned, her eyes full of sarcasm as she looked at him coldly.

"Worried about me? That's a first."

Lance's expression hardened slightly, "Why are you here?"

Chloe looked at him indifferently, "Why can't I be here?"

Lance's face gradually darkened, as a man, he couldn't accept being ridiculed like this.

"Chloe, I'm really worried about you?

Chapter 305

"I'm fine, why are you worried about me? Lance, your fiancée is still here. She pretends to be all sweet and generous in front of you, but behind your back, I'm always her first target. Her tactics aren't clever, but harassment is always annoying! You better watch your mouth." Lance was speechless and totally caught off guard by Chloe's words.

He said he was worried about her, and she was telling him to watch his mouth?!

She never used to be like this.

Keira, sensing the awkward atmosphere, quickly tried to change the subject.

"Sis, is this your car?"

She noticed the strange car parked in the yard as soon as she walked in. Although it was hidden in the dark, its understated luxury was still evident.

Chloe smiled faintly, appearing unsurprised.

"I bought it myself as a treat... Oh, and I paid cash."

Keira's face immediately changed.

Showboating with her own money right in front of her. How outrageous!

She swore that one day she would get everything back from Chloe,

like Starlight International.

Tonight, Nick had mentioned Starlight International. Keira must be pulling the strings behind the scenes.

Keira didn't expect her to bring this up directly, she feigned innocence and said,

"Sis, what are you talking about? Everyone knows Starlight International is your company."

Chloe squinted, her gaze sarcastic.

"So you're saying you haven't taken enough from me yet?"

"What's going on? Keira, do you want Starlight International?"

Lance frowned upon hearing this. Keira, seemingly frightened, quickly shook her head.

"Lance, I'm still working at your company, I'm still your perfumer. I don't have time to take over other companies!"

Lance then looked at Chloe, "Chloe, could it be a misunderstanding?"

Chloe lightly brushed her hair, laughing coldly in her heart.

Does he trust her that much?

"Sis, what happened to your neck? Did you get bitten by something?"

Keira's voice was filled with surprise, trying to change the subject.

Chloe paused at her words.

Lance's eyes shifted to her, suddenly noticing the dark red mark on her fair neck.

That was...

Being a man, he naturally knew what it was.

The scene he saw yesterday outside the mall flashed across his mind.

She was acting intimately while in the arms of a man.

He stared at Chloe with his eyes widening in disbelief.

Chloe lightly put her hand on her neck, furrowing her brow in thought for a second, and instinctively looked toward the car parked not far away.

Damon's gaze lingered on the rearview mirror of the car, he had adjusted the angle so he could see Chloe.

He smiled slightly when he saw her cover her neck and look toward him.

Then he raised his eyebrows slightly, and lightly honked the horn of the car, sending a distant greeting to Chloe.

Chloe's heartbeat quickened, and a moment later, a helpless smile slipped into her eyes.

How much resentment did he have for her not letting him get out of the car and show himself?

He was doing everything he could to prove his existence.

Chapter 306

Chloe's faint smile fell into Lance's eyes. He wasn't sure if the man in the car was the same one he saw yesterday, but the honking looked like a flirty signal no matter how you thought of it.

A flirty signal?

He had never thought that one day such a subtly ambiguous gesture would appear on Chloe, who was always cold and domineering in his eyes.

Chloe briefly moved her gaze away and moved her hand away from her neck, unashamedly revealing that ambiguous mark.

"Don't you get it? You're pretending to be too innocent."

Her admission silently delighted Keira Keira sneaked a glance at Lance, his brows furrowed.

"Sis, are you really ... "

"Really what?" Chloe cut her off coldly, with her gaze icy and intense.

Keira bit her lip and clung tightly to Lance's arm. "I just don't want you to do something stupid."

"Keira, go inside first."

Lance's calm voice suddenly broke in, interrupting Keira.

"Lance...

"Honey, you go in first."

Lance pulled away his hand and gave her shoulder a pat, and his voice was still gentle.

Keira was reluctant, but she had to give in to Lance's insistence.

After Keira went in, Chloe walked out of the house and headed for the car.

She felt that she didn't need to continue talking to Lance.

"Chloe!"

After watching Keira go in, Lance immediately followed Chloe and blocked her way.

Chloe stopped with her expression cold.

"Chloe," Lance caught a glimpse of her impatience, and his voice got even lower, "do you really hate me that much?"

Hate?

Chloe looked up with an ambiguous smile.

"Love is a common thing between men and women. If they are compatible, they stay together; if not, they break up. That's normal. Hatred also requires feelings. I haven't wasted too much feeling on you yet. You crossed my bottom line, I can't pretend nothing happened. You expect me to be grateful after you deceived me?"

Lance's brow furrowed, he closed his lips and looked up at her. His gaze once again fell on the red mark on Chloe's neck.

She actually let another man touch her!

How could that be?

Lance suddenly grabbed Chloe's wrist tightly, his voice almost a growl of frustration and anger.

"Who were you with? What the hell did you do? Even if you hate me, you can't do this to yourself!"

Chloe's indifferent eyes narrowed, and she shook off his hand.

"Do what to myself?"

Lance's eyes were cold, "Aren't you the one who values modesty the most? Aren't you the one who insists on sex after marriage? Just because I broke off the engagement with you, you...you're punishing me by treating yourself this way?!"

Chloe laughed coldly, "You think too highly of yourself! You don't have that capability or charm!"

Then why ... "

"Because I like it."

Facing Lance's intense emotions, Chloe answered unusually calmly.

This answer left Lance speechless.

He looked at Chloe, with his hoarse voice even lower, "What did you say?"

"I do what I like. Nobody tells me what to do. I like him. I like his touch. In front of him, I can easily break my own principles."

Chapter 307

Lance felt a bit on edge looking at Chloe's cold yet serious face.

"You said ... you like him?"

They had known each other for so many years, and he had never heard Chloe say that before.

Chloe, not wanting to delve into this anymore, just looked at him coldly without saying a word.

Who is it? The guy in the car?"

Lance seemed determined to get to the bottom of this.

Who he is has nothing to do with you, and you have no right to know."

Chloe didn't want to say more. She walked around him, opened the car door, and got in.

Lance stood there, stunned for a moment, until the car drove past him. He suddenly realized this and hurriedly turned around, but only saw the side of the man's face on the driver's seat.

It seemed like he was looking at him too, but at the moment he turned his head, the man also turned his head away.

Although he didn't know who the man was, Lance could clearly sense that the man's aura was different from ordinary people's.

It was the man he saw at the mall yesterday.

But who was he?

Back at the Summers family's home, the atmosphere in the living room was unusually heavy.

Lance knew they all disliked Chloe, and he felt even more oppressed.

He didn't ask any further questions. He just said goodbye and left the Summers family's home alone in his car.

Watching Lance leave, Keira noticed his strange expression and asked worriedly what he and Chloe had talked about. Lance just shook his head, told her to get some rest, and then he left. Keira returned to the living room with a heavy heart, noticing the unhappy faces of the three elders.

Viviana looked even more upset compared to them.

"Mom, are we...really going to give those companies and shops to Chloe?"

After saying this, she looked at Nick, hoping he could respond.

Upon hearing this, Keira's eyes instantly sharpened.

They asked her to come back today to discuss Starlight International. Why are they bringing up the companies and shops again?

Carolina said with a frown, "No way! Those companies and shops were only established after that woman married into our family! After she died, they naturally belonged to us!"

Hearing this, Viviana breathed a sigh of relief but still asked cautiously, "But what about what Chloe just said? Her mother seems to have made a will with a lawyer, once Chloe gets married, the companies and shops will automatically transfer to her. This..."

Carolina frowned. Thinking about this gave her a headache, she couldn't help rubbing her brow.

After a moment of thought, she slowly said, "She won't get married soon, we can deal with the lawyer before she gets married."

For so many years, since Chloe's mother died, she had treated those things as their property, but she didn't expect her to have such a backup plan.

Hearing Carolina say this, Viviana and Keira finally felt relieved.

They themselves only needed to put in some effort and money to accomplish these things, but explaining to the family if something went wrong would be difficult.

With Carolina's support, they felt more confident in whatever they were doing.

If they couldn't even control Starlight International, dreaming about getting anything else would be ridiculous.

The car Damon was driving was very fast, and they quickly arrived at Emerald Valley Estates.

The car stopped smoothly, and after Damon turned off the engine, the lights in the driver's compartment went out.

Chloe was surprised by his speed, she turned her head to ask him something but then heard a "click" sound.

That was the sound of her seat belt being unbuckled.

Chapter 308

'You…"

Her voice had just begun when he swept her into his arms.

This sudden move left Chloe wide-eyed in surprise. Without warning, he started kissing her.

Her eyes sparkled even more in the night, and the familiar scent engulfed her instantly. His overpowering force left her no choice but to open her lips, allowing him to take control to ease the pain from the friction.

One of Damon's hands held the back of her head while the other gripped her waist tightly, leaving no room for her to resist.

His aggressive advance took her by surprise, like a sudden storm, domineering but gentle at the same time.

Their breaths intermingled, and possibly because she knew it was Damon, or due to a bodily instinct, Chloe, who was initially stiff, began to gradually soften and melted into Damon's embrace, kissing him deeply.

After a while.

Their lips finally parted, and the corners of their lips were wet with saliva, a unique sign of their passion and sensuality.

Damon's eyes remained firmly on Chloe, and his handsome face was still flushed with passion.

They were so close, his breath flowed between them, and Chloe was panting slightly and looking into his eyes. There was a mix of dominance and affection in his eyes.

Chloe's heart began to race uncontrollably.

"What's gotten into you?" she whispered.

A smile was across Damon's face.

He reached out to pinch her smooth chin, and his cool fingers pressed against her swollen lips, tracing their beautiful shape.

His other hand was propped against the car door behind her, enclosing her completely in his arms.

He kept staring at her, the smile in his eyes becoming more pronounced.

Finally, his warm lips brushed lightly against her cheek, her nose, and then her eyes.

Chloe's eyes fluttered, she tilted her head slightly, and Damon's deep and pleasant voice echoed.

"I also like touching you." His hand kneaded her waist, kissing her lips again, "I really do."

Chloe's heart skipped a beat, quickly catching the meaning of his words.

Chloe's face turned so red that it spread to her neck.

"We should get out of the car and get some rest."

Blushing, Chloe turned to open the car door, but Damon pulled her back.

Her forehead hit his warm chest, making her feel a bit dizzy.

"What do you want?"

"What?"

"I want to give you a gift."

Chloe was hesitant, "There's no special occasion today, why do you want to give me a gift?"

"It's the normal dating process. I want to give you gifts, then date you, and finally propose. I want to marry you as soon as possible."

Chloe was speechless! She thought to herself,"

Can't you consider my feelings a bit?

By following this process, you don't need to think twice, do you?

I just started a normal relationship, and it's already come to this! Things are moving too fast!" Chapter 309

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The elevator door shut, and Damon wrapped her in a tight hug from behind.

Chloe jumped a bit, swiftly turning around to look at him, "What's up?"

"Do you really like kids that much?"

Chloe's face flushed, she lowered her head and tucked her messy hair behind her ears, "I think they're adorable."

Damon pondered for a moment, "I think our child would be even more adorable."

Leaning against Damon's warm chest, his deep and calm voice resonated from behind her, making Chloe blush.

Thankfully, the elevator door opened just then, and Chloe let out a sigh of relief.

She turned around, pecked Damon's chin with a soft kiss, then said, "Good night," and headed straight out of the elevator.

Damon didn't push her any further, he counted and realized he had already had quite a few sweet moments that day

He couldn't be too greedy.

Back at home, Chloe freshened up, hopped onto her bed, and dialed Winston's number immediately.

Starlight International's meeting room.

The entire meeting room was decorated in a simple yet luxurious style. By nine in the morning, the conference table was filled, and the atmosphere was somewhat tense. Before long, the door of the conference room flung open. Chloe strutted in wearing a beige suit, her slender waist wrapped in a matching blazer, and her long, straight legs in a knee–length pencil skirt of the same color. Her heels clicked on the floor as she walked with her head held high and her chest out.

Her steps were firm and the sound of her heels hitting the floor echoed in everyone's heart.

Everyone instinctively straightened up, their gaze following Chloe until she sat at the head of the long table.

Sitting in the main seat, Chloe's cool gaze swept over everyone without a hint of emotion, then she retracted it.

Thank you all for sticking with Starlight International this far."

Chloe's calm voice filled the room, her words stirring a sense of unease among the people present. The atmosphere was ominous.

"Today's meeting is mainly to announce one thing: the future direction of Starlight International."

Chloe paused for a moment, all eyes were on her, everyone holding their breath.

Business direction?

What does that mean?

Are they declaring bankruptcy, or has the company been acquired and merged by other companies?

With everyone's anxious and expectant gaze, Chloe slowly spoke,

"From now on, the company will no longer represent other companies in contract negotiations and resolving PR issues."

People were confused. What were they supposed to do then?

The company had been making money by solving problems for other companies, if they stopped accepting other companies' business, were they going to lose their jobs?

"So, Ms. Summers, what are we going to do?"

"We will only handle PR for celebrities!"

Chloe's decision was unquestionable.

People started to whisper among themselves.

"In other words, our company will become a talent agency. We will only sign contracts with artists and we also might groom our own artists."

This clear explanation stirred up the entire conference room.

"Although we will basically operate the same as before, the resources and connections required to do this are quite strong! Even though our previous PR scope included the entertainment industry, it could never compare with other professional entertainment companies. Now that we have suddenly narrowed down our operation scope, there's definitely going to be a cooling–off period for the company! This will cause some losses, Ms. Summers, your view is..."

"I've thought it through. All company employees who are willing to stay will have training arranged for them. I won't force those who don't want to stay. I hope you can convey my decision."

Chloe's eyes turned stern as she looked at the room full of dissenting voices.