

CHOSEN 371

Chapter 371

A glint of delight flashed in Damon's eyes as he leaned in to plant a soft kiss on her forehead.

"Go rest on the bed for a bit."

Seeing Chloe nod in agreement, he turned and headed for the bathroom.

By the time he emerged, Chloe was already lying on one side of the bed. Her delicate silhouette on the sheets was like another presence in his

territory

Before meeting her, he could never have imagined all that was happening now,

That such a woman would appear in his life.

He glanced at the figure occupying a small corner, his lips moved slightly.

"Already asleep?"

Chloe was facing away from him, her fingers tightly clutching the blanket.

"No..."

Chloe's gentle voice echoed in the bedroom. The other side of the bed suddenly dipped as the blanket was lifted, a strong arm draped over her waist, with a gentle push, she was flipped into his arms.

She let out a yelp, instantly enveloped by the distinct masculine scent, a mix of fresh shower gel, warm moisture, and her own scent

“Why so tense Where’s the courage you had before, huh?”

There was a hint of complaint in his voice.

She glanced up at him, resting her hand on his waist, giving a light pat

“Be patient a little longer.”

I’ve been patient.”

Chloe could hear his voice full of grievance, a twinge of guilt in her heart. She shifted her gaze, then said.

*Rose called me today, you asked me to join the perfume competition with Keira?”

His hand slowly relaxed on her waist, allowing her to rest on his arm.

“Yes. Take this opportunity to settle the plagiarism issue once and for all.”

Chloe looked up at him in surprise, “That’s your purpose?”

“What? You don’t think you can win?”

“It’s not that, but your decision seems to have upset Rose.”

Damon raised an eyebrow, “She wants me to pull strings for her?”

Chloe hesitated, then shook her head, "Rose doesn't support nepotism, but since she has this resource, not fully utilizing it might make her feel

regretful."

She paused, then looked at him, "Would you pull strings for her?"

"Why should I? She's not you."

Hearing this, Chloe couldn't help but smile, a warm feeling surging in her heart.

"Looks like I'll need to prepare well, strive to get into your company. Then I can officially be your coworker, right?"

"Mmm, I like the sound of that. Once the competition is over, come straight to me, be my special assistant. Okay?"

"Special assistant? Like Nate?"

Damon's gaze deepened, he leaned in to nip at her lips, "Do you think Nate and I would be like this?"

Chloe blinked, a faint blush spreading on her face, but she couldn't help but laugh.

"People are saying you two are a thing, they think there would be intimate gestures between you..."

Hearing this, Damon's face instantly darkened.

Chloe stifled her laughter, patting his waist in a soothing manner, "Don't mind them. Besides, I might not be able to be your special assistant, I still have my own company to run."

Damon shot her a glare. "You're busier than I am."

"Once the company is stable, I'll rest, wholeheartedly taking care of the Reed family."

Damon cracked a slight smile, "That really gets to me."

Chloe also smiled, "Want to hear something more deeply rooted?"

"Spill it."

Chapter 372

"I hope you could marry me, I want to be your wife, I want to do so many things with you."

She spoke slowly, her words crisp and clear. Her clear eyes stared straight at him, her face beaming with an unprecedented sincerity and

affection

Damon seemed to be in shock

He bent down to kiss her again, kissing her almost madly, as if he really wanted to devour her.

"You always drive me crazy"

After a passionate kiss, Damon squinted at her, his voice heavy and filled with obvious restraint and endurance

Chloe was panting slightly, finally burying her face in his chest.

Damon held her tightly, both of their hearts racing

Despite Keira's minimal impact on the Olson Group, a few investors expressed their intention to withdraw, losing a few orders.

Emerging from the club. Lance sat in the back seat of the car, rubbing his temples, his face cold.

He had never socialized to this extent before

"No matter how much is invested, as long as there is investment, we have to be grateful and feel the pressure. We need to prove to investors that their investment is correct. Only if investors believe in us,

will they continue to inject capital into us. We can't underestimate any investment." That was what Chloe said at a meeting when she first came to the Olson Group. She was only 23 at the time, but she already exuded great

confidence

Back then, he gave it his all. And she, she was always by his side, helping him through every tough time.

Suddenly, his phone rang. The ringtone was Keira's exclusive ringtone.

Lance glanced at it indifferently, but didn't answer, letting the ringtone echo in the quiet car

After a while, the ringing stopped.

Twenty minutes later, at Lance's private villa.

As soon as Lance entered the door, he untied his tie, and habitually opened the bathroom door after going upstairs, seeing the woman lying in the

bathtub.

The surface of the bath water was littered with bright red rose petals, making the woman's skin look even more fair. A bottle of red wine and a glass wine glass were placed next to the bathtub.

Keira was leaning against the edge of the bathtub with her eyes closed. Feeling someone coming in, she slowly opened her eyes.

"Lance, are you back?"

Keira's voice echoed softly, and she slowly stood up from the bathtub.

She wore nothing, her skin still stuck with a few red rose petals.

Lance's gaze flickered, "Why are you here?"

"Because I knew you'd be back here tonight"

Keira got out of the bathtub, her slender arms with beads of water on them, she lifted them to wrap around Lance's neck, pressing her body tightly against his

Lance was slightly taken aback, then slowly placed his hands on the woman's soft waist.

As her red lips parted, Keira stood on tiptoes to kiss Lance's lips, boldly sticking out her tongue, teasing him over and over again. Her other hand slowly unbuttoned Lance's shirt

She was so proactive, so seductive, how long could a man resist when a woman willingly cooperates?

Her warm, soft hand was exploring the man's firm chest, Lance's body tensed slightly

Keira kissed him even harder

Feeling the effects of the alcohol, Lance wobbled slightly, bending down to pick up Keira and walking out of the bathroom.

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Chapter 373

The two of them were lying close together on the bed, their breaths short and passionate. Keira was kissing Lance, hastily undoing his belt

Lance responded with equal fervor, but when she softly called his name in his ear, his body suddenly stiffened. The hand that had been gripping Keras waist loosened, and then he pulled away

I've got some stuff to deal with, you should rest

With that Lance prepared to leave Keira felt a rush of panic in her heart and quickly got up from the bed, hugging Lance tightly from behind

"Lance, can't you stop being mad? What happened last night wasn't my doing I admit, I am a bit jealous of her. Used to see her as my sister, but all these years, she never considered me as her little sister, she kept rejecting me time and time again. Even if I had deep feelings for her she just brushed them off. But I fell in love with you, I took you away from her. I should apologize to her for that. I'm really torn, Lance. But I would never hurt her. Lance, you can't ignore me, you can't not believe me, you know? I'm really upset. You have no idea what I've been through today

Lance closed his eyes tightly, his temples throbbing with pain.

If he had trusted Chloe more back then, maybe....

They wouldn't be like this now!

Thinking of the hurt his mistrust had caused Chloe, he felt a pang of sadness and helplessness.

Trust

"Keira, haven't I given you enough trust?"

Keira choked back a sob, hugging Lance even tighter. "You have. So please, Lance, keep believing in me... I'm really scared, please don't leave me...

Lance was exhausted, and the sound of Keira's breakdown tugged at his heartstrings. He couldn't bear it, slowly turned around, and sure enough, Keira's face was streaked with tears.

He knew what had happened, he knew the pressure she was under, but...

Lance picked up the blanket from the bed and draped it over Keira, taking a deep breath, as if he had made a major decision

"Keira, why don't you quit showbiz?"

Keira's face turned pale instantly, her tear-streaked cheeks turning ashen.

"In that industry, people scrutinize you every day Any flaw gets magnified. Wouldn't it be better for you to just stay by my side without worries? I saw the notification today In three months, there's a perfume contest. The winner can successfully set up shop in Harper Commercial Center Wouldn't it be nice if you just remained your identity as Rosanna? You wouldn't have to work so hard..."

"Lance, I can't I just can't right now, my grandma wouldn't agree... and I don't want to. I haven't reached my goal yet, I can't let setbacks defeat

Lance, I'm going to participate in the perfume contest, and I'm going to win. As for leaving showbiz, it's all too sudden, can you give me some more time? Lance... please...

me

Lance looked at her seriously, then let out a sigh.

"I won't force you. Calm down for a bit. I told you before, the old man from the Watson family is having an 80th birthday bash next week. Come

with me..."

Keira nodded quickly. "I know, he's the biggest investor of the Olson Group Til behave, I won't embarrass you..."

Lance looked at her again, finally sighing. "You should rest now. I still have some work to do."

He left coldly, and Keira watched as he closed the door, sitting on the edge of the bed with a pale face....

Chapter 374

As the richest family in B City, the Watson family's old house was pretty down-to-earth, with a sense of calm charm.

The old man of the Watson family didn't really fancy having his house used as a party venue, so he opted for a swanky hotel.

This suited the tastes of the young folks these days.

Even though it's the old man's birthday bash, with such a golden opportunity, everyone wanted to use this chance to rub elbows with the Watson

family.

One after another, luxury cars parked at the entrance, businessmen in dazzling suits and famous celebrities strutted into the hotel.

Reporters, cameras in hand, incessantly snap shots of government officials and aristocrats, faces some people might never saw in their lifetime

The Watson Group held considerable sway, commanding a high standing in the business world.

This party was so grand it could be described as an unprecedented shindig.

Old Mr. Watson's grandson, Angie, used to be a constant source of headlines, bringing heaps of trouble to the household. This made Old Mr. Watson none too fond of media reporters.

As a result, those media reporters could only wait outside the hotel lobby, trying to sniff out some juicy news.

Chloe and Damon arrived a day early and have been staying at the hotel since yesterday

The party was about to kick off. Chloe, Damon, Rose, and Kane, who tagged along, left their hotel rooms to head to the banquet hall. Not long after, they ran into Angie and his wife Susana on the same floor.

Even though the couple already had a pair of kids, they're still as charismatic as ever.

Dressed in a designer suit, Angie gave off a cold and distant vibe. The gorgeous woman by his side had her long hair neatly tucked up, donning a simple champagne-colored evening dress, delicate pearl earrings adorning her ears, emanating an intellectual and elegant aura

Chloe, with a twinkle in her eye, stepped forward to greet Angie and Susana.

Susana smiled and nodded at Chloe.

Angie, however, didn't respond.

"You're here."

In Angie's eyes, only his wife could capture his attention.

"I'm really sorry for what happened before, I should've come sooner..."

"It's no big deal, I've seen worse news than that; I'm used to it."

Hearing this, a hint of embarrassment flashed across Angie's face.

Damon raised an eyebrow slightly, turning his gaze to Angie, "Perfect, we have some issues to sort out." Susana turned around, glanced at Damon and Angie, smiled faintly, "Then you two take your time, we'll leave first."

Angie opened his mouth to stop his wife, but Susana decisively left him with Damon.

The banquet hall was filled with handsome men and beautiful women, looking picture-perfect.

But Chloe's look for tonight didn't particularly stand out.

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Chloe was decked out in a white suit.

Pairing wide-legged trousers with a matching long coat, her long hair cascading over her shoulders, she looked fresh and efficient. But that was it Her entrance didn't turn many heads, and Kane who was standing next to her seemed a tad disappointed

"Chloe, why aren't you in a dress? Look at the occasion, all the women are in revealing dresses, and you're dressed like you're off to work. You should show yourself off at this banquet Look at Rose... ahem... aren't you a woman?"

Kane looked at Rose's conservative dark blue dress and rubbed his head in helplessness.

"What a waste of a good figure."

Chloe just shook her head, resigned.

Susana, on the other hand, was looking at her with admiration in her eyes.

She's a smart woman.

Susana's eyes sparkled, pity, if it wasn't for the fact that the young master of the Harper family had taken a liking to her, she would've been a great match for her son.

Seems like her son didn't have that kind of luck.

She couldn't help but sigh in disappointment, catching Chloe's attention.

"Ma'am, are you alright?"

Susana shook her head, "I'm fine."

Just then, there was a commotion at the entrance of the banquet hall.

Everyone turned to look.

A man and a woman entered.

The man, tall and handsome in a black suit, exuded a graceful aura.

The woman by his side, in a red off-shoulder dress, revealed her slender legs with every step she took.

Her makeup was flawless, her smile invincible.

They were Lance and Keira.

Chloe casually looked away, a hint of scorn flashing across her face.

Susana's gaze lingered on Keira for a few seconds, her brows slightly furrowed.

The moment Keira stepped in, she spotted Chloe.

Seeing her outfit for the night, she felt even more triumphant.

She thought Chloe should always be like this, never as good as her.

When Lance saw Chloe, his face stiffened.

Before the banquet officially started, Chloe grabbed a glass of champagne and stood on a balcony in a corner of the banquet hall, enjoying the evening breeze.

Her hair fluttered in the wind, giving off a faint fragrance.

"Chloe."

A familiar voice came from behind. Chloe slightly raised her eyebrows and slowly turned around.

Lance was already by her side, staring at her intently. Even though they'd just seen each other a few days ago, it felt like it had been ages.

Since their break-up, they had been seeing less and less of each other.

"Why are you here?"

Chloe's expression was calm, her outfit showing off her tall figure.

Her face was full of indifference and detachment, “Why can’t I be here? Is this your house?”

At Chloe’s provocation, Lance pursed his lips, looking at her hair fluttering in the breeze.

His expression changed slightly.

Chapter 376

“About the nodent at the school celebration. I apologized

as why she called the Summers family.

half of Kera. But she did say that she was genuinely worried about you, which

Chice smirked signy and looked down at the clear glass in her hand.

“Shut your mouth. You think you have some sort of privilege that I should forgive her just because you apologized for her? Your Kera is always so kind innocent, and vulnerable How could the possibly

up, slandering me by saying that I had an affair with Chase?”

Ker has explained there might

Lance looked helpless. His own words dicht gute convince

ding here”

but how could he let the conflict between them escalate?

There surely was a misunderstanding She rationally insisted that I was with Chase, that's misunderstanding number one She brought a gang over to bang on my door that's number two The one who called the Summers family in advance got me slapped, that's number three Including all the previous nodent

Chloe paused, smirked. 7 might have conflicts with Kera, and too many misunderstandings between us, but the injustices she suffered from me

understandings to you all. So in your eyes. I have to be the bad guy, right?"

Her tone was indifferent without a rope, but to Lance's ears it was full of sarcasm

"Chloe. I didnt mean that, I never said you were a bad person..."

Chloe ch ked and shook her head. "Nevermind it doesn't matter to me what you think of me. Keira, the Summers family, everything they've given me. return in kind. Even you. Lance. If Keira likes competing with me, then let her compete. Because whatever she gets, I make sure she loses The more she gets, the more poignant the taste of loss will be

With that she turned to leave, ignoring Lance's grim expression

"Oh, and..."

Chice suddenly stopped, turned back to Lance, and smiled

"Did you bring Keira here this time to help the Olson Group win over the Watson family? The Watson family's investment is very tempting. I think if Spotlight Beauty got the strong support of the Watson family, it would surely take it to the next level"

Lance was taken aback. He grabbed Chloe's wrist and said gravely.

"So you're here today to help Spotlight Beauty win the Watson family's i

“Do you see a problem with that?”

“Chice!” Lance frowned, looking at

Group!”

“tment?”

with a strange look in his eyes, and scolded, “You know how important the Watson family is to the Olson

Chloe shrugged his hand off and looked at him coldly.

“What does that have to do with me?”

With that Chice turned and left indifferently

Not long after, the banquet officially began

Old Mr. Watson, leaning on his cane, was helped to the main seat

Despite his old age, he still had an authoritative demeanor.

Those vibrant eyes conveyed an unyielding attitude.

As people took their seats, it was clear that Old Mr. Watson didn’t like a nosy atmosphere and wasn’t much for modern b Entertainment like singing and dancing wouldn’t please him. As his daughter-in-law, Susana had always known what the ol At tonight’s banquet, the host had specifically invited a theater troupe to perform the famous ballet Swan Lake

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All the young folks here weren't really that into the ballet. They were just sitting there, spacing out a bit. But seeing Old Mr. Watson so engrossed, no one dared to act disrespectfully

Keira was sitting in the front row, clearly not impressed in her opinion, the actors were just too damn theatrical. Their over the top ballet steps didn't seem artistic at all. Sitting in the front row, the sound of the footsteps was giving her a headache

In her boredom, she spotted Chloe in the front row nearby, along with Rose and

She frowned. All these years, Chloe had only gotten to know a few rich guys through Rose

Would Chloe have achieved so much without Rose's help?

Just then, Angie and Damon showed up.

They sat down next to Chloe.

Chloe had Rose on her right and Susana on her left. Angie came over and took the empty seat to Susana's left. They shared a smile. Angie leaned in and Susana whispered something in his ear. A smitten smile crossed Angie's handsome face. Susana casually adjusted his collar and looked

at Old Mr. Watson, who was completely absorbed in the performance. She then sat back properly and continued to watch the show.

Rose, sitting to Chloe's right, saw Damon come over. She glanced at him and then shifted, naturally giving up her seat.

Damon casually took the seat on Chloe's right.

Rose straightened up to talk to Kane, blocking Keira's view. She had no choice but to look away, but her brows knitted even tighter.

The ballet was reaching its climax, and Old Mr. Watson was totally focused on the performance

Chloe watched Odette and Prince Sigfrido dance on stage and cracked a smile.

“Don’t you think you’re a bit like Odette?” Damon leaned in and whispered in her ear

Chloe replied, “You mean I’m a princess turned into a swan by a curse?”

Damon just chuckled and didn’t reply

Chloe added. “And you’re Prince Sigfrido who stumbled upon me in the forest?”

Damon frowned slightly. “Isn’t their love story similar to how we met and got to know each other?”

Chloe looked at him

Damon just gave her a meaningful smile and whispered in her ear: “I was thinking you’re like Odette, smart and beautiful, thoughtful and understanding You’re so captivating, I cant take my eyes off you...”

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Chloe’s face turned beet red in an instant

“You you’re something else!”

Damon chuckled softly. “I may be more rational than that naive Prince Sigfrido who was deceived by the Black Swan Odile, at least when it comes to you. I don’t fall for tricks and lies so easily”

Chloe was speechless. This guy was really full of himself

After the ballet performance ended, it was time for the young folks.

At this point, someone suggested, "Since so many young people are here to celebrate Old Mr. Watson's birthday and it's still early, why don't we let the youngsters liven things up a bit? The ballet didn't seem to be everyone's cup of tea, so how about we choose some activities that the younger crowd might enjoy?"

Chloe looked up and saw a skinny middle-aged man she didn't recognize making the suggestion.

She didn't pay much attention to it, but then some of the younger male audience members stood up in agreement. Chloe didn't think much of it but the guy's gaze quickly swept over her.

His eyes held a hint of contempt, which irritated Chloe. She couldn't help but wonder, was there anyone who didn't look down on her?

When had she ever offended someone like him?

"Recently, the Grand Piano Championship has been making quite a splash online. The organizers' activities have become a real hot topic. I've always followed the 'Grand Piano Championship' closely.

The champion of the competition six years ago, in my opinion, won fair and square. The fact that they took back her trophy is outrageous. I believe there are many true music aficionados here. Since the champion herself is present today, why don't we let her perform a piece for us to judge her skills?"

Chloe immediately got his drift.

This guy was a fan of Keira

So there was a perk to being a celebrity you had fans backing you up everywhere.

"I heard about the whole Keira thing on the internet quite interesting"

"I heard the Grand Piano Championship organizers smashed her trophy because her grandma spoiled her so much that she bribed the judges." "Six years ago? What I'm more interested in is the rumor about her sister seducing the judges... That judge is a real piece of work."

Chloe clenched her eyes shut, then shot a cold look at the guy who was talking

Bad news does travel fast What kind of occasion did he think this was, bringing up this stuff at Old Mr. Watson's birthday party!

At this point, Keira stood up slowly and said softly, "Back then, I truly didn't know what my grandmother had done for me. Even though they took, back the trophy, I've never blamed her I know she was only trying to help me."

"The trophy is just a token They can take back the trophy, but they can't take back what I already have. Today is Old Mr. Watson's birthday, and I don't want this incident to spoil his mood I don't need everyone's judgement. Since were talking about piano, and I don't have any other significant talents, why don't I take this opportunity to play a piece in honor of Old Mr. Watson's birthday."

"Great!"

Keira's modest and appropriate speech earned her a round of applause

Although Old Mr. Watsons face showed a range of emotions, he still nodded in agreement

As Keira spoke, she lifted her bright red dress and walked onto the stage Only then did everyone notice the paie, stunning red dress

Mr Watson's brows furrowed slightly, but nobody paid attention

Chloe, however, couldn't help but laugh

ende b ok revealed by he

What exactly was her intention for wearing such a dress at a birthday party attended by four generations of the same family

Chapter 379

She was all quiet and well mannered tonight.

She didn't care about what others think, did she?

She looked pretty self assured, obviously trying to show off her talents.

Although there was no media at the scene, it does not mean that no reporters got in. Furthermore, even without the media, if she could attract one or two of the many investors present, it would be considered her gain. Why not leave a good impression on the Watson family while at it, right?

Was there such a coincidence?

Chloe's gaze landed on the guy who brought up the Grand Piano Championship, mulling it over.

The piece Keira was playing was Richard Clayderman's "Souvenirs d'enfance"

A pleasing melody echoed in the banquet hall, the piano notes floating in the air creating a cheerful and cozy atmosphere.

Once the last note fell, the proposer was the first to start clapping.

Everyone else followed suit.

“Brilliant, so brilliant! Such wonderful music, Ms. Summers! Your piano skills are extraordinary, you’re truly gifted!”

“It was indeed very pleasing.”

“Ms. Summers, how long have you been playing the piano?”

Keira smiled softly, stood up, and whispered:

“I’ve neglected it a bit due to work in recent years, but all in all, about sixteen years.”

“It was really beautiful Ms. Summers, with your skills, you should totally win the Grand Piano Championship, right?”

1

“Even without the Grand Piano Championship as proof, Ms. Summers’ skills would be recognized anywhere. That’s just a trophy after all...”

Keira just shook her head, smiling, and then turned her gaze towards the proposer, nodding slightly.

His smile got even brighter, nodding non stop.

After a while, he turned his gaze to Chloe.

“Ms. Chloe, what do you think of your sister’s performance?”

Chloe was sitting calmly in her seat Upon hearing his question, she slowly raised her eyes, her bright eyes sparkling like stars under the light, filled with indifference and pride. She stared at the proposer coldly.

After a moment, she just smiled slightly, and instead of answering his question, she asked:

“And you are.”*

As soon as Chloe’s words fell, some of the guests nearby burst into laughter.

The smile on the proposer’s face froze.

With a simple sentence, she was basically saying: Who do you think you are? Why should I answer your question?

Such arrogance!

The man’s face turned pale with embarrassment, then he forced himself to maintain composure, managing to pull off a stiff smile

Im Lenard, my mothers a not so famous music producer”

“Lenard? That name sounds familiar. ”

“He’s a famous music producer, a lot of big name artists ask him to write songs!”

“I think he’s a student of the famous music instructor Serena, right? Serena has trained two generations of music superstars, and countless other celebrities and artists! Lenard is her only private student!”

Hearing this, the embarrassment on Lenard’s face gradually disappeared, replaced by a hint of arrogance and pride, almost as if he was challenging Chloe

Chloe, as expected, simply nodded.

“So that’s how d is if Mr. Lenard thinks so highly of her piano skills, then I naturally think they’re good”

Seeing her calm and indifferent demeanor, Lenard frowned slightly.

At this moment, Keira laughed and said “Thank you for the compliment, s. This is the first time ever received your approval, and I’m really. happy

Chloe just raised her eyebrows, not responding

They’re in B City, at Old Mr. Watson’s birthday party, no less. Even Keira knows she has to watch her words, Chloe’s obviously not going to make

scene.

“You’ve never been complimented before? Ms. Chloe, didn’t you also participate in a piano competition back in the day? Why not share some detailed thoughts on this?”

Chloe casually shook her head, “I’m not good with words, I can’t critique”

“Well, in that case, why don’t you play something for us? Let us experience firsthand what you consider ‘good’ to bel

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Chloe glanced up again, smiling at Lenard, ‘I haven’t seriously played the piano in about five or six years, why are you being so hard on me, Mr. Lenard?’

Everyone kinda got his intent, but they were clueless as to why Lenard suddenly brought up the Grand Piano Championship from six years ago.

Could it really be because of the recent buzz online?

When it comes to artists, people often think their actions are pretty quirky!

Lenard chuckled, "Ms. Summers, you got me all wrong. The fact that you didn't get to participate in the Grand Piano Championship back then is such a pity. As a music producer, I truly regret not having heard your piano playing."

"There are a lot of music producers in this world, none of them are crying because they didn't hear me play! There are plenty of piano players out there, are you gonna feel regret for not hearing all of them too?"

"Haha..."

Laughter rippled through the room, even Susana beside her couldn't help but laugh at Chloe's words.

This girl, always so serious, but when she starts to rebut, she doesn't hold back.

Damon just gave a slight smile, leaning back in his chair, his usual cool demeanor intact. He was keeping his head low, seemingly uninterested in the sudden argument that had broken out.

Lenard's face darkened, "Of course I can't focus on everyone, the Summers two daughters have been getting quite a lot of attention online recently, and I am fortunate to meet you guys today. As peers in the music industry, I see no harm in us exchanging ideas, right?"

Chloe thought to herself: Who wants to exchange ideas with you? What's in it for me?

From the moment Lenard set eyes on her tonight, she knew, he was gonna be on her case all night.

Chloe took a deep breath, her face a mask of frustration and disgust.

"So, you're going to hound me all night until I play a piece, right?"

Lenard shrugged, "It's a rare opportunity."

Chloe scoffed, slowly standing up.

"I haven't really played the piano since that competition six years ago. If I suck, don't laugh at me. Compared to Ms. Keira who has been studying for fifteen or sixteen years, I'm definitely not up to par."

Lenard nodded, smiling. "How could that be?"

Keira smirked to herself, silently mocking her sister.

If she sucks, of course she'll be laughed at!

Chloe chuckled, "Alright then, I'll go perform. It's Old Mr. Watson's birthday today, I'll use this chance to play a piece for him. Also, wishing Mr. Pei a happy life and good health."

Old Mr. Watson nodded solemnly. "Thank you."

Truth be told, Mr. Watson wasn't exactly a fan of this type of music, he preferred more traditional folk tunes from his hometown.

Keira noticed Mr. Watson's attitude, but luckily, she was the first one to perform. If every performance was a piano piece, it would inevitably get a bit dry

Chloe also noticed Mr. Watson's mood, so she gave it some thought, brushed her hair off her shoulder, and finally tied it up into a braid with a hair