

CHOSEN 511

Chapter 511

“Hey.”

Rose Davis sounded a bit tired.

Chloe frowned, asking, “Where are you? Still not feeling well?”

Rose put her pen on the table, leaned back into her chair, sighed, and said,

“I’m at the office, just a bit beat. What’s up?”

Chloe paused, then said, “I wanted to hang out with you, but if you’re not feeling well...”

Rose took a deep breath, cutting Chloe Summers off, “Let’s go. Maybe getting out will help me feel better.”

Rose rubbed her forehead, straightened up, closed the files on her desk, and stood up.

Chloe hesitated, then murmured, “Alright, I’ll come pick you up.”

Rose chuckled, “Mr. Harper won’t mind, right?”

Chloe rubbed her forehead frustratingly, “You still have the energy to crack jokes. You must not feel too bad.”

Rose laughed, sounding a bit better, “If Mr. Harper doesn’t mind, then I’m all good.”

“Alright, I’ll come get you after work.”

Chloe hung up, taking a deep breath.

That night, the weather was gloomy, with a light rain beginning to fall.

A luxury car drove through the rain and slowly came to a stop.

The driver opened the driver’s door, holding an umbrella as he walked to the back seat and respectfully opened the door.

A tall man bent down to get out of the car, then slightly turned his body to look silently at the car door. Soon, a delicate hand reached out, resting on the man’s outstretched hand.

Keira, holding her dress, got out of the car, looking petite next to the tall Lance.

She looked up at Lance Olson with a sweet smile, “Thank you, Lance.”

Lance stared at Keira’s smile and was momentarily dazed, his expression unconsciously softening.

The corners of his mouth lifted slightly, delighting Keira whose smile grew sweeter.

Soon, another car slowly drove up.

Upon seeing it, Keira let out a soft cry and ran forward, with Lance, who had his arm around her shoulder, quickly following.

“It’s raining, why are you running around?”

There wasn’t a hint of reproach in his words. All he wanted to do was to spoil her.

“But Mom and Dad are here.”

In the face of Keira’s kindness and gentleness, Lance seemed to have no resistance.

Seeing the car slowly stop, Keira bit her lip and hurriedly walked over.

Lance, fearing she’d get wet, held her as they walked to the car.

Keira quickly opened the car door, took the spare umbrella from the driver, opened it and held it up. Lauretta Ablett got out of the car, looking a bit surprised at Keira.

“It’s pouring, we could’ve walked ourselves. Look at you, you’re soaking wet.”

Lauretta Ablett said this with a polite smile, glancing at Keira’s rain–soaked shoulders.

Keira laughed, looking very cute and pitiful.

Then Grover Olson also got out of the car, his expression cold and his attitude toward Keira also somewhat indifferent.

When they all reached the entrance, Lauretta Ablett urged Lance Olson and Grover Olson to go into the club first to arrange some things.

She and Keira stayed outside, waiting for Carolina Petry and the others to arrive.

Chapter 512

Staring out at the drizzling rain, Keira affectionately clung to Lauretta’s arm, her voice filled with regret.

“Lauretta, I’m really sorry for all the trouble I’ve caused you guys lately.”

Upon hearing this, Laretta couldn't help but sigh softly, "The entertainment industry is a big mess. One wrong step and you're in hot water. I know Lance isn't too keen on you being a part of it either. We could talk about your wedding tonight. Before you get married, we won't interfere, but after, as the Olson family's daughter-in-law, constantly being in the public eye might not be a good look. Think about it!"

Keira furrowed her brows, her long eyelashes flickering with a sense of helplessness and trouble.

"Laretta...to leave the industry at this point, I can't accept that...and Pulse Entertainment needs me right now."

In the end, Laretta just sighed in silence, not saying another word.

Keira was feeling pretty wired. After a long silence, she finally began to speak slowly.

"I'll leave the industry, but not now. I can't leave when times are tough, and I can't just abandon Pulse Entertainment." Laretta glanced at her and just shook her head.

"You'll have to discuss this with Lance!"

The rain seemed to be getting heavier. A black sedan pulled up at the entrance.

Rose got out of the passenger seat, holding an umbrella and wearing a trench coat.

Then the driver's side door opened, and Chloe stepped out in a long coat, holding a black umbrella.

As she turned around, despite the rain blurring her vision, she spotted two people at the entrance.

In a matter of seconds, her gorgeous face had already taken on an indifferent expression.

Slightly furrowing her brows, she felt a bit ticked off by Kane making decisions on his own.

Chloe walked around the car and headed toward the entrance of the club with Rose.

Lauretta looked pretty awkward. She didn't dislike Chloe. After all, she had helped them during the Olson Group's most difficult times.

She had initially been supportive of her marriage to Lance, thinking they were both capable and that their love seemed natural.

But who would've thought Lance would end up with Keira?!

Thinking about it, she still felt awkward and uneasy about that anniversary party.

Watching Chloe and Rose about to leave, Lauretta hesitated for a moment but finally couldn't resist calling out to Chloe.

"Chloe, you're here too?"

Chloe stopped in her tracks.

She turned around and a sarcastic look appeared on her face as she looked at Lauretta.

"Mrs. Olson, is there something you need?"

Lauretta hadn't expected Chloe to become so sharp and stern.

"We haven't seen each other in a while. How are you doing? Are you okay?"

Chloe scoffed coldly, "That's none of your business!"

Lauretta couldn't hold back any longer. She took a deep breath, then let out a heavy sigh.

"Chloe, some things are better left behind. Lance chose Keira. Even if you're pissed, you should've blown off steam by now. Things have come this far, no matter what you do, Lance and you..."

"Mrs. Olson!"

Chloe, who began to feel upset, cut Lauretta Ablett off.

Chapter 513

Chloe naturally closed her umbrella, saying coldly.

"It's despicable for a man to secretly date others while he's already engaged. He even hooked up with his fiancée's sister. You really think Lance is such a great guy that I should keep missing him?"

Hearing Chloe badmouth her son, Lauretta instantly turned serious and her hands trembled with anger.

"How could you say such a thing? You..."

Chloe put her umbrella away and looked up at her with eyes filled with sarcasm.

"Why can't I say it? You think I'm wrong? Think about it..."

She paused, stared at Lauretta for a couple of seconds, and then slowly said.

"If your husband was fooling around with your sister behind your back, how would that make you feel."

Lauretta went pale, pointed at Chloe, and yelled, "How dare you!"

Chloe Summers slightly raised her eyebrows and scoffed.

“I’m just making a point, and you can’t handle it?”

Chloe’s face turned icy cold.

“I’m not a pushover, and I’m not easily smitten by any man, let alone a man who’s worth less than garbage. Don’t think every girl will fall for your son. Me and him? Not in a million years. Is he even worth my time?”

Seeing Laretta’s face turn pale with anger, Chloe Summers’ eyes grew colder.

She didn’t want to argue with Laretta any longer and turned to leave.

“Don’t act so high and mighty! Weren’t you the one who was always running around for Lance?!”

Chloe suddenly stopped, paused for two seconds, then slowly turned around, coldly looked at Laretta, and also caught the sight of Keira’s mocking smirk.

Chloe’s tall and slender figure radiated a strong aura, her aloofness and undeniable dominance made Laretta nervous.

She stared at her for a moment, then said.

“You remember how I used to run around for Lance, don’t you? Don’t forget it! Just in case I have to remind you when I come to settle the score!”

Laretta was intimidated by Chloe’s dominance and instinctively leaned toward Keira.

Noticing Laretta's reliance, Keira quickly said, "Sis, Mrs. Olson is our elder after all..."

"Elders should act like elders, don't try to bind me here with double standards! Not everyone has morals."

Chloe glanced at them, then turned and went into the club with Rose.

Watching Chloe's retreating figure, Laretta helplessly shook her head.

Her face was filled with regret and disappointment.

"Chloe wasn't like this before; how did she become like this?"

Chapter 514

Keira shook her head, "Sorry about my sister's attitude just now... We had no idea she'd turn out like this."

Laretta also shook her head, "She's too harsh. Thank God Lance didn't choose her in the end."

Keira gently bit her lip, "Actually, my sister is very kind..."

"Alright, alright, you're always defending her, but we all know what kind of person she really is. Oh... Looks like your grandma's here."

As she spoke, Laretta looked up to see a car approaching in the distance, effectively ending the conversation.

Keira also looked up to see that the car had pulled up beside them.

She quickly opened her umbrella and welcomed Carolina Petry out of the car.

Accompanying her were Viviana Reeves and Nick Summers.

After greeting Laretta, Viviana started chatting at the entrance.

When Rose entered the club, she didn't look too well, so she went straight to the restroom.

Chloe was waiting for her in the hall's corridor, all by herself.

When Lance came out to look for Laretta and Keira, he saw Chloe at the corridor entrance.

"Chloe?"

At the sound of the familiar voice, Chloe furrowed her brows and turned around. As she expected, it was him. Her expression instantly turned cold.

Lance opened his mouth again, "Didn't expect to see you here."

Chloe's brows knitted even tighter.

"Why can't I be here?"

"Why are you here? What are you up to?"

Before Lance could finish speaking, Carolina Petry's scolding voice echoed from behind.

Lance looked up at Carolina, then at Chloe, his brows gradually furrowing.

"Chloe... weren't you invited by them?"

“We’re discussing your wedding with Keira tonight, why would I invite her?”

Carolina said angrily.

Chloe stood still, facing away from Carolina and the others.

Keira looked at Chloe’s back, feeling a bit smug.

Knowing they were discussing her wedding with Lance today, she couldn’t help wondering how upset Chloe must be.

Even though she claimed she didn’t care earlier, did she really feel that way?

The man she had waited many years for was now getting married, there’s no way she wouldn’t care!

Hmph.

Chloe, you lost your man, and an important one at that. How could you just stand by and do nothing?

Chloe said calmly, “Lance and Keira are getting married?”

Carolina narrowed her eyes, watching her warily, “What are you planning to do?”

Chloe scoffed, “What can I do? It’s a good thing that Lance and Keira are together. I’m happy for them.”

Lance seemed a bit disappointed. He pursed his lips, looking at Chloe with a complex expression.

Chloe continued, "Bad boys and bad girls always end up together. I'm looking forward to seeing what kind of sparks they'll create."

Chapter 515

After Chloe finished speaking, the whole room got very serious. Everyone wore different expressions. Lauretta turned as pale as a ghost and threw a glance at Carolina.

Carolina felt even more embarrassed and pissed when Lauretta looked at her like this.

She tried every possible way to insult Chloe, but Chloe remained unaffected.

"You... you are so... uncivilized!"

Chloe Summers laughed coldly, "Yes, I am uncivilized! My dear grandma..."

"Ha..." Rose Davis, who had been silent all this while, couldn't help but laugh.

It was so ironic to hear these words coming out of the mouth of Carolina Petry, the head of the Summers family!

Carolina's face turned really ugly.

"If you're here just to stir shit up, you better leave! Behave yourself tonight and stop causing trouble!"

Chloe squinted at Carolina, then glanced at Lance and coldly said "Congrats".

As Lance was standing opposite to Carolina and Chloe was standing with her back to Carolina, no one saw the expression on Chloe's face when she looked at Lance.

Lance's face tightened, and so did his hands.

After Chloe finished speaking, she walked away.

Just a few steps out, she sensed a weird and familiar vibe in the air.

She slowed down and looked ahead.

Seeing the familiar tall figure, Chloe felt a chill run down her spine, and her lips twitched involuntarily.

Damon was standing there, staring at her, with his aura screaming danger, making Chloe curse inwardly.

Rose nudged Chloe's arm and whispered to her, "He seems off, did you piss him off or something?"

Chloe pressed her lips together.

Yes, she definitely pissed him off!

Then, Damon started walking toward them with his long strides.

The look on Chloe's face was a mix of confusion and panic.

However, just as Damon was about to reach her, someone gave Chloe a hard push from behind. Caught off guard, she stumbled a few steps toward Rose.

Rose quickly held her and they both ended up leaning against the wall of the corridor.

Damon paused for a moment, his eyes filled with danger.

However, the person who just pushed Chloe, Carolina Petry, was completely oblivious to it. She walked toward Damon with a smile and extended

her hand.

“Mr. Harper, nice to meet you, I’m the CEO of Pulse Entertainment. I was also at your inauguration ceremony. You’re so young and talented!”

Damon looked at her, his eyes deep and mysterious, making it hard to guess what he was thinking.

Chapter 516

In the blink of an eye, his deep gaze moved away from Carolina Petry’s fake smiley face. He lowered his head, and his eyes finally landed on her outstretched hand, staring silently for a long while.

After a bit, Damon Harper still didn’t take the bait, and Carolina’s smile started to freeze on her face.

Just as her hand was about to give up from exhaustion and numbness, Damon slowly reached out.

But he reached out with his left hand.

Carolina didn’t overthink it and quickly switched to her left hand too.

They shook hands as if it were the most normal thing in the world.

At this point, Carolina’s smile instantly turned into a grimace. She seemed to be in extreme pain but didn’t say a word.

Then, she looked up at Damon. Seeing his unpredictable expression, Carolina showed a flash of doubt in her eyes, then tried hard to keep smiling, turned and pulled Keira to the front, and continued, “Mr. Harper, this is my granddaughter, Keira, a key figure in our Pulse Entertainment...” “I know.”

Damon Harper's indifferent voice rang out, exciting both Carolina and Keira.

But before they could even start to celebrate, Damon continued.

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"The prettiest but most useless face of Pulse Entertainment, the biggest failure of a perfumer at the Olson Group, I've heard all about it." Carolina's and Keira's smiles froze on their faces, unable to maintain them any longer, making for an extremely awkward scene.

Even Laretta, who stood nearby, couldn't help but turn her head, unable to bear the awkwardness.

Chloe smirked, taking Rose, who was shaking with laughter, and they walked away.

Damon glanced at them out of the corner of his eye, made no move, and turned his attention to Lance instead.

Lance frowned slightly. As a man, the stubbornness of not admitting defeat in front of a competitor seemed to be innate.

His gaze instinctively followed Chloe's retreating figure.

A hint of danger flashed in Damon's eyes, and he subtly shifted his position to block Lance's view.

Lance had no choice but to pull his gaze back to Damon.

"Hello, Mr. Harper, I'm Lance Olson from the Olson Group."

Lance extended his hand to Damon, but Damon Harper didn't move, instead, he said, "I heard you're marrying this woman?"

Lance also looked awkward, pulling back his sore hand and nodded.

“Yes...”

Only then did Damon give a slight smile and nod, “Congratulations.”

They didn’t see that one coming.

Before they could even recover from the surprise, Damon had already turned around and left.

He dressed in luxurious clothes, radiated an aura of nobility and authority and an indescribable charm that was so alluring.

Keira watched him as he walked away, growing uneasy.

She was furious when she thought about the unreachable man who had once spent a billion to help Chloe out of trouble.

She didn’t understand why he did it.

Just as she was thinking about this, there was a sudden commotion at the door. Everyone looked up and saw Zoey protecting someone who was walking in.

Chapter 517

This person was rocking a chiffon blouse on top and a sea-blue striped long skirt below. The skirt had a V-shaped slit on the right side, revealing a glimpse of her slender legs every now and then as she walked. She had a mask on, but it didn’t take long for people to spot her waist-length red curls, causing quite a stir.

Soon, people were clamoring for her autograph and pictures.

Jeanette Randle was all set to sign and pose, but Zoey ushered her swiftly through the door.

“Zoey, isn’t this a bit too much?” Jeanette asked.

Zoey, while shielding Jeanette and guiding her forward, replied hurriedly.

“Today’s not a public event, babe. You’re still finding your footing, we’ve gotta plan out your social circles better. You can’t put yourself out there without being ready. Plus, we’ve got Ms. Summers’ pals at tonight’s dinner, and we’ve gotta respect their privacy. The more people we attract, the more trouble it means. So, when you’ve gotta say no, just say no. Can’t please every fan, y’know?”

Jeanette nodded and continued following Zoey.

“Jeanette Randle... It’s really her.”

“She’s so stunning, I adore her long hair.”

“I wish I could get an autograph and a picture.”

In no time, a crowd had gathered at the entrance of the club.

Keira was watching Jeanette and her hands clenched tight.

Carolina wasn’t looking too pleased either.

Zoey glanced at the people blocking their way, then shifted her attention elsewhere, treating them like strangers.

Jeanette also spotted Carolina and Keira, her face changed and she halted.

Zoey wrapped her arm around Jeanette's waist and nudged her forward.

Approaching the group, Zoey said bluntly, "Excuse me, make way please!"

At this, Laretta instinctively moved aside, but Carolina and Keira stood their ground.

Zoey moved Jeanette forward a bit more, again urging, "Excuse me, make way please."

Carolina Petry stood still with her face stern.

"So you've hit the big time and don't recognize me anymore, Jeanette?" Carolina said.

Hearing this, Zoey straightened up, looking coldly at Carolina.

But before Zoey could say anything, Jeanette spoke up.

"I'm sorry, I didn't realize the person blocking the hallway was the distinguished and classy Ms. Petry. How could I not recognize you? If it weren't for you guys, I might not be here today, I should be thanking you!"

Carolina was left speechless by the sarcasm. She closed her eyes in frustration, clutching her chest, unable to utter a word.

Chapter 518

Seeing this, Keira quickly stepped forward to steady Carolina, her brow furrowed as she looked at Jeanette. There was a subtle reproach in her gentle voice.

"Jeanette, you've been working for the company for a couple of years now. Carolina has always been fair to you. But now you're deliberately getting on her nerves. Isn't that a bit too much?"

Her voice was soft, but it carried through.

The fans, who had been kept at bay by the bodyguards, grew quiet, with all eyes on them.

Jeanette gave a cold laugh and shook her head.

She saw through Keira's pretense and was increasingly disgusted with her behavior.

She was always easy-going about matters outside of music and didn't bother to scrutinize people's character.

She believed that people can't always be up to no good, and if they did something bad, it must've been their last resort.

She never got involved in the backstage gossip among the artists in her company.

But she never anticipated that reality was much more complicated than she had thought.

There were plenty of bad guys in the world without a proper reason.

Their mindset was just rotten.

"I don't think there's anything wrong with what I said. If you guys are upset, ever wonder why I said what I said? Don't you guys have any self-awareness to reflect on your actions? You always blame others whenever you're unhappy about something.

"And Ms. Keira, what do you mean by 'unfair'? You've had it easy all along. Don't make unfounded accusations. Carolina Petry is your kin, not mine. I know very well whether she's been fair to me or not.

“No offense, but you guys think too highly of yourselves. You probably give a buck to a beggar and think you’re Mother Teresa! So, are you saying that all the artists in your company should be grateful as long as they’re not starving to death?”

After saying this, Jeanette paused and added.

“I’ve always had issues with Ms. Chole’s attitude, but I’ve come to understand recently, she had her reasons.”

“You...you’re shameless, ungrateful, you...”

Carolina’s face was flushed with anger.

Yet Jeanette looked back at her with arrogance and disdain.

“If memory serves, I already thanked you guys. If you think that’s not enough...feel free to have whatever you want tonight, put it on my tab, and consider it my appreciation for not letting me starve all these years!”

Keira, holding back her anger, spoke with a just tone.

“Don’t you think you’re overreacting? I was just kindly reminding you that you’re in the public eye now. You can’t be too harsh, you need to leave yourself an out.”

“Ms. Keira, I’ll return the favor. After all, you’ve always been in the public eye, and lately, your reputation is on fire!”

Chapter 519

After Jeanette Randle finished speaking, the fans who had been stopped by the bodyguards at the door began to whisper amongst themselves.

“Isn’t that Keira Summers? And that’s Ms. Petry, she’s such a sly old fox!”

“Are they bullying Jeanette Randle again?”

“Looks like it to me. Isn’t that them cornering Jeanette Randle in the hallway?”

“Hey, bodyguards, we’re loyal fans of Jeanette Randle. We wouldn’t hurt her. If someone’s bullying Jeanette, you guys better go protect her!” The two bodyguards looked back and were stunned for a moment. Then they looked at the fans who had conscientiously stepped back a few paces, all urging them to protect Jeanette Randle.

The two bodyguards exchanged a glance. Finally, they turned around and walked toward Jeanette Randle, unceremoniously shoving Carolina Petry and Keira Summers aside, and then used their towering, muscular bodies to block the two women.

Jeanette Randle gave a faint smile, ignoring Keira Summers’ trembling body and Carolina Petry’s ugly expression. Turning to Zoey, she said, “Zoey, let’s go.”

Zoey raised her eyebrows in surprise.

Jeanette’s tone and demeanor were becoming eerily similar to Chloe’s.

*Sure.”

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Accompanied by the bodyguards, Zoey led Jeanette past Carolina.

The fans looked at Carolina Petry and Keira Summers, snorting disdainfully.

“See, bullying the weak and fearing the strong is just their style.”

“Stealing other people’s work and still being so arrogant. How can there be such shameless people in this world?”

“Let’s go, I don’t want to see them anymore!”

After Jeanette left, the fans also dispersed.

Keira bit her lip tightly. As things came to a halt, she looked at Lance, who seemed to be in his own world, wondering what he was thinking.

“Lance...”

Lance gradually came back to reality, casting a glance at her. His expression was indifferent, showing no fluctuation.

Lauretta broke the silence first. “Alright, let’s stop blocking the way here. Let’s go to the private room.

So they all went to the private room.

Both Lauretta Ablett and Grover Olson were in a bad mood due to the day’s events, so they went straight to the point.

They set the engagement ceremony for Keira Summers and Lance Olson for June 14th.

Keira was a bit shy, her cheeks flushed. But Lance seemed distracted from the start.

A hint of grievance flashed in Keira’s eyes. She tried her best to hide her feelings, but Lauretta across the table caught all of it.

Chapter 520

Lauretta Ablett pivoted to face Lance Olson. Seeing his expression, she scowled and couldn’t help but ask, “Lance Olson, what’s your beef with this decision?”

Lance lifted his head, locked eyes with Laretta Ablett, then glanced at Keira Summers, who was on the verge of tears. His lips moved slightly, but it took him a moment to speak.

“...”

Under the table, his foot suddenly stomped hard. Lance saw the warning look in Laretta’s eyes, paused for a moment, then gave a slight shake of his head.

“I don’t have any issues.”

Keira, whose nerves had been tightly wound, finally relaxed. A satisfied smile appeared on Carolina Petry’s face.

Viviana Reeves noticed that Laretta Ablett and Grover Olson didn’t look too pleased, so she started chatting with them, trying to distract them. “What’s up with this waiter? We’ve been waiting for ages and our food still hasn’t arrived!”

Viviana Reeves complained. Laretta Ablett also frowned.

“Lance, go check it out, see what’s the hold-up.”

Before Laretta finished speaking, the sound of a glass hitting the floor was heard, followed by a shriek. Carolina immediately stood up, frantically patting the water stains on her clothes.

Carolina Petry paused. Her face, which had been lit up with joy because of Keira’s wedding news gradually turned pale.

At this moment, Carolina was clutching her left wrist tightly with her right hand, sweating profusely.

Keira let out a gasp, “Granny, what happened?!”

Grover immediately stood up, looked at Lance, and said urgently.

“Lance, start the car and take Carolina to the hospital.”

When they arrived at the hospital, it was found that Carolina had fractured her left hand.

While watching the doctor treat Carolina, Laretta asked in confusion.

“I wonder how her left hand suddenly got fractured?”

Carolina closed her lips tightly and remained silent.

What could she say?

That her hand had been fractured when shaking hands with Damon Harper?

Besides, the handshake was so brief, how could this happen?

She thought for a long time but still couldn't figure it out.

Was it that Damon's strength was enormous, or had she offended him somehow? Or had her hand been injured previously, which was why she felt such pain during the handshake?

There were too many possibilities, but she didn't think she could have offended Damon Harper.

All she could do was shake her head, “I might have bumped into something by accident. I'm getting old, a slight knock can cause a serious injury.”

Lauretta nodded thoughtfully, "That's quite possible. You must be more careful in the future. Looking at your injury, it may take a year and a half to fully recover."

Carolina Petry heaved a sigh, feeling helpless. What a disaster!

At the Stardust Soiree, after Damon entered, he noticed that only Kane, Jeanette, Zoey and Rose were in the booth, but Chloe was nowhere to be

found.

"Where is she?"

His handsome face was devoid of any expression, but his icy voice made everyone feel a chill down their spines.