

CHOSEN 551

Chapter 551

“Seriously? Chloe is flirting with Mr. Harper so openly and he doesn’t even notice?”

“Mr. Harper is really patient and has a good temper”

“Do we even care about his temper when dealing with such a bitch?”

Some people really couldn’t stand others doing better than them. They didn’t have much resentment towards Chloe at first, it was just to make Keira a bit happier. But now they were genuinely jealous. It was all because Damon spoiled Chloe.

At this moment, Keira was also looking at Chloe resentfully. The depth of her eyes seemed to be tainted with poison.

“Alright, alright! Stop being so green-eyed. Look at Mr. Harper’s status, it’s not your turn, and naturally, it’s not Chloe’s turn either. Let her enjoy her moment. No matter how much she wants to steal the spotlight, tonight is not about her. The main event is yet to come!”

The auction was halfway through, and the atmosphere was inevitably lively. There were dances, songs, and celebrity talk shows arranged diversely.

After a few songs, Serene, as a guest performer, was invited onto the stage. She, wearing a silver sequin mermaid dress, was shining under the dazzling lights. Her figure was curvaceous, graceful and attractive. She held a violin at the edge of the stage.

This position made Chloe’s face slightly change. Obviously, this segment was a special one.

On the big screen, the next auction item was displayed.

'This is a My Queen ring! It's a fusion of a blue flame heart-shaped diamond and a queen's heart setting design, the main diamond weighs five carats. The design was inspired by the King of B Country during his coronation ceremony when he deeply kissed the Queen. The queen's arm naturally formed a heart shape. It's the most romantic and noble combination of heart setting and heart diamond, symbolizing love and hearts in sync. You are the only queen in my heart!' After the host finished speaking, she left the stage. with a perfect smile, followed by Serene's melodious and romantic violin performance.

Serene's violin posture was elegant and her figure was swaying. She looked towards Keira with a meaningful smile on her face.

"One million!"

"Two million!"

"Three million!"

Women loved jewelry, men loved women. As soon as the ring came out, implying romance, the price immediately soared.

"Six million!" Lance bid.

Serene's violin tune suddenly became cheerful.

Chloe squinted her eyes and thought for a moment. She probably had guessed Lance's plan for tonight. Now that he was generously boosting the price to six million, he was determined to win tonight, not only the final "one and only".

Now, no one responded to the six million bid. Chloe smiled indifferently in her heart, suddenly raised her sign, and coldly said, "Ten

million!"

As her cold words fell, Serene on stage frowned. The violin sound changed again, surprisingly similar to the entrance music of the witch in fairy tales. Keira frowned slightly, feeling both angry and pleased. Chloe was obviously opposing on purpose, which made her angry. But at the same time, she felt pleased because Chloe obviously still cared about Lance. Now, she couldn't hide her feelings, right?

As for Lance, the more Chloe cared, the better. That way, she could feel superior. She could feel that she was her rival!

Chloe's move successfully reminded everyone of her past relationship with Lance. And Lance's heart also slightly moved.

Did she care?

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"Lance." Keira called out, a hint of confusion in her voice as she noticed Lance's hesitation.

Snapping back to reality, Lance saw the unease and humility on Keira's face, gritting his teeth. Eventually, he found his resolve again, lifting his paddle to bid, "Thirteen million!"

Chloe scoffed, also raising her paddle, her voice icy. "Thirty million!"

Her words sent a low murmur through the room. The jump in bidding broke yet another record for the night, reminding some of the past relationship between Chloe and Lance. Could it be that Chloe couldn't bear to see Lance successfully win the "My Queen" piece for her sister?

Two sisters fighting over a man, drama was certainly not in short supply tonight.

Despite the escalating price, Keira felt immense joy watching Chloe lose control. Lance's face turned increasingly grim, clearly troubled by Chloe's actions.

At that moment, Keira took his hand, whispering, "Lance, you don't have to keep going. I don't need it."

Lance just shook his head, his eyes filled with a touch of helplessness. He glanced at Chloe, sitting there coldly, oblivious to what she might be thinking.

Once again, he raised his paddle, "Forty million!"

The atmosphere in the room instantly peaked as everyone eagerly watched the standoff between the former fiancés.

Sure enough, Chloe soon raised her paddle again, "Sixty million!"

The room was stunned by the price, Jeanette at Chloe's side jumping in surprise.

She clutched Chloe's arm nervously, whispering carefully, "Ms. Summers, this is too much. You could buy so many rings with sixty million. Why this one?"

Knowing Chloe, she didn't believe Chloe was still hung up on that jerk Lance, especially with a boyfriend who was leagues better than

Lance.

"Why? Because this is what Lance wants to give to Keira." Chloe's voice was icy, her face cold.

Her answer was known to everyone, but Jeanette looked up at Damon, afraid to see a storm brewing on his face. Unexpectedly, not only was he not upset, but a slight smile appeared on his face, full of indulgence and tolerance.

Jeanette was completely lost! This was truly baffling. Almost everyone was under the impression that Chloe and Keira were jealous over a man, yet her boyfriend seemed so open-minded.

Chloe's sixty million once again shocked everyone.

“What? Mr. Olson has already cut ties with her, and she’s still messing around here! Shameless!”

“This woman is so petty, can’t stand to see others doing well! She’s not even trying to hide it! Does she really want people to know she was once Mr. Olson’s girlfriend?”

“Flaunting a past love affair?”

“All in all, her behavior is outrageous, clearly targeting Keira! They’re sisters, how can she be so unaccepting of her own sister?”

“Yes! Mr. Olson, you should keep bidding, you can’t let her get her way. Only you can protect Keira now! That way, some people might finally give up their obsessive ways!”

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Lance’s face was already looking quite grim at this point, and yet he couldn’t just back out easily. He had no choice but to keep bidding. “Seventy million!”

Chloe raised her sign again, “Eighty million!”

Finally, Keira’s friends couldn’t hold back anymore.

“Hey, Chloe, aren’t you going a bit too far! You’re obviously targeting Keira, raising the price on purpose, aren’t you?”

“Exactly! How can someone be so shameless?”

Chloe didn’t even blink an eye, sitting calmly in her chair and retorting coldly. “It’s a charity auction. I’m willing to donate more money for charity. How does that translate to deliberately raising the price? In your eyes, Keira is some sort of goddess whose actions are always right, while everything anyone else does is wrong. Even doing charity, if it gets in the way of your friend’s public display of affection, makes one a villain, does it?”

“You’re despicable!”

Chloe smirked and nodded, “Despicable? Seems like in your eyes, charity really isn’t as important as your friend’s love display. That’s a lesson learned today.”

The actress turned beet red, glancing around to see a number of reporters pointing their cameras at her. She panicked and quickly sat

down.

What she didn’t realize though, was that just because of Chloe’s nonchalant words, she was doomed in the entertainment industry. Charity was a sensitive topic, and not many were genuinely willing to contribute. Even so, keeping up appearances was necessary. It was a topic that was easily criticized. To say that “charity isn’t as important as Keira’s public display of love”, that was just asking for

trouble!

“Ninety million!” Just as the atmosphere at the venue started to become awkward, Lance’s voice rose again.

“Lance!” Not just others, even Keira looked at him, shocked and delighted!

Lance put down his sign and turned to look at Chloe. But Chloe didn’t make a move!

She raised an eyebrow slightly, a small smile playing on her lips, “Since Mr. Olson is so fond of this ring, I guess I’ll just have to let it go! I mean, I want to do charity, but one must live within one’s means, right? Ninety million, well, I concede. I think we should all give a round of applause for Mr. Olson’s generous donation to charity, to show our gratitude and admiration!”

Chloe started clapping, and the sound of applause echoed throughout the venue. Jeanette, Kane, slowly, the entire venue was filled with enthusiastic applause.

Keira hadn't quite recovered from the joy of victory when she began to feel that something was off. The joy on her face gradually faded. She turned to look at Lance, indeed, his handsome face was filled with gloom.

If Chloe hadn't participated in the bidding, Lance could have gotten the ring for a mere six million.

Ninety million, for a ring! Because of Chloe, he lost more than eighty million!

Even though she had the ring in the end, the outcome made her grind her teeth in hatred. The applause in the venue was like a slap in

the face to Keira.

Played by Chloe once again. Looking at Chloe, and seeing the smile at the corner of her mouth, Keira felt like rushing up and slapping

her!

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"Keira, you're one lucky gal! Look at Mr. Olson, he's even going toe-to-toe with your sister, all for you!"

*90 million, just for a ring, that's envy-inducing!"

"This just shows how much Lance loves Keira!"

Under the swarm of compliments, Keira's face seemed to brighten up a bit. She gently held Lance's hand, whispering, "Thank you, Lance. I'll never forget what happened tonight."

Keira's gratitude somewhat relieved Lance's tension, "As long as you're happy."

Keira nodded, "I really love it."

At that moment, the host took the stage, laughing, "Congratulations to our Mr. Olson for winning My Queen. I wonder what made him willing to spend such a hefty price for this ring?"

The host paused mysteriously, glanced at the crowd, then said, "Why don't we invite him to share with us?"

The host started clapping first, and naturally, everyone else followed.

"Ah-"

"Keira, the surprise of the evening is here!"

Now that the ring had been auctioned off, there must be a leading lady. And naturally, it was undoubtedly Keira.

Sensing what was about to happen, the crowd started to chant, taking out their phones to capture this romantic moment. The reporters were prepared with their cameras, ready to follow Lance's tall figure.

Keira was surrounded by people, her face shy but unable to hide her excitement, her eyes closely following Lance.

Lance was dressed in a deep blue suit that day. He was born into a wealthy family, naturally exuding elegance. His tall figure and handsome features were enough to attract women. Most of the women present were both infatuated with him and envious of Keira.

Feeling the admiring gazes of most people, Keira felt even more excited.

Lance took the microphone from the host, standing on the stage under the dazzling lights, he looked even more handsome.

Chloe watched the center of the stage with a calm expression.

Lance said, "We have a responsibility to do charity. Thank you to Heart of Giving for hosting annually, getting more people involved in charity. To help patients, children, refugees, and those in need in our society. Because I've been busy with work recently, I've somewhat neglected my personal life. So, tonight at this charity banquet, I want to handle a private matter, and I hope you all can witness."

"Oh!!" The crowd started to tease meaningfully. "Propose! Propose! Propose!"

A tender smile appeared on Lance's face, his affectionate eyes slowly turned towards Keira, who was surrounded by people.

When they saw Lance look at her, the ladies around Keira playfully nudged her. Keira lowered her head, between shyness, she sneakily glanced towards Chloe, a triumphant smile on her face.

Lance continued, "Keira, I'm sorry that I haven't been paying enough attention to you recently. Even on the eve of our engagement ceremony tomorrow, I haven't formally proposed to you. So, today is my last chance..."

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"Keira, I gotta say sorry. I've been neglecting you lately. Even with our engagement tomorrow, I didn't give you a proper proposal. So today is my last shot...."

He paused, took a deep breath, and continued slowly,

"Keira, thanks for not giving up on our love because of societal pressures. Opportunities come in a flash, and I thank you for giving me the last chance to hold you. Thanks for being by my side all the way. You comforted and encouraged me through my numerous downfalls. Thanks for all the patience and efforts you've made for me. Your kindness, generosity, and intelligence deeply attract me, and being able to spend my life with you is the most beautiful thing in my life."

The more Lance talked, the softer his expression became. He mostly spoke about their encounters, their understanding, their love, and beautiful memories from the past, easily immersing people once again. It seemed their love was the purest, deepest, and most romantic in the world.

People inevitably fell silent, drawn into the deep love between the two. But the corners of Chloe's lips turned. Her elegant face showed a chilling ruthlessness.

Not giving up on love due to societal pressure? Since when did a woman who wanted someone else's man have such a righteous reason? Since when did Keira become the one who stood by him through thick and thin? Since when did she become the one who bore and gave?

What did she bear? Continuously unfair treatments from Chloe? Or was it revenge?

Kindness, generosity, and intelligence?

Chloe swept her hair back, her hand finally rested behind her forehead, and she laughed sarcastically with her head down! Was this a reminder of how foolish she was?

Every word Lance uttered now was filled with deep affection. Especially for all the women present, who were born for love and now were moved to tears. Only Chloe was filled with sarcasm and anger!

Finally, she lifted her eyes, and her icy gaze seemed venomous, staring fiercely at Lance on the stage who was deeply affectionate. At this moment, the host handed the "My Queen" ring to Lance with a smile on his face.

Lance smiled and reverently accepted the ring, then once again turned his gaze to Keira. Keira was biting her lip; her pale delicate face/ was filled with tears of happiness. Her face was covered with tears, tragically beautiful.

The women surrounding Keira pushed her onto the stage in front of Lance. Lance looked at her tenderly, slowly bent down on one knee, and showed her the ring.

Keira's face was streaked with tears. A look of surprise flashed across her face as one hand nervously clutched her skirt and the other covered her mouth. She looked down at Lance with a face full of excitement and emotion.

“Allow me to take care of your every day, to bring you joy with my presence. Keira, will you marry me?”

Even though this was an inevitable matter, Lance still carefully asked this question.

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Serene’s violin was already strumming to another tune, a romantic staple for any marriage proposal

“Say yes to him”

“Marry him-”

“Marry him-

“Marry hmmm-”

Everyone in the crowd was clapping rhythmically, pushing Keira to say yes to Lance.

Keira was very emotional; her face was streaming with tears. She closed her eyes and nodded vigorously. “I agree!

Lance took Keira’s hand and slid the expensive ring onto her slim ring finger

The crowd erupted into cheers. The applause was deafening.

Keira pulled Lance up from the ground. She was looking at him with a mix of laughter and tears.

“You two can kiss now!”

Amidst the crowd’s cheering. Lance pulled Keira close by her waist and dipped in for a kiss.

Keira tilted her head to meet Lance's kiss, but her eyes were looking past Lance's shoulder straight at Chloe. She didn't even try to hide her smug expression.

Chloe coldly met Keira's gaze. She stared at Keira for a long time, her eyes filled with a coldness that seemed capable of destroying everything.

Keira... Lance...

She was curious to see how long their romantic love could last. She gave a sarcastic smile, slowly clapping her hands under Keira's gaze.

Keira felt a bit uneasy by the indifference and sarcasm on Chloe's face.

The long kiss provided enough time for the reporters to witness this grand proposal. Charity dinner extravagant ring, and My Queen! Without a doubt, Keira was the queen of the night.

Because of tonight's sensation, their engagement party tomorrow would definitely be the talk of the town.

At this moment, Serene's violin gradually stopped. She swayed her hips and walked over to the couple.

She gave Keira a gentle hug. Then she said, "Congratulations Keira, on your union of love!"

Keira was touched, "Thank you."

Serene smiled gently, then turned to Lance and said, "Congratulations to you too, Mr. Olson

Lance looked at Keira and smiled tenderly.

Serene looked at the two of them happily on the stage, then glanced at Chloe in the audience and said arrogantly,

“If you fall in love with two people at the same time, choose the second one. Because if you really loved the first one, you wouldn’t have fallen for the second. Love doesn’t follow a first–come–first–serve policy, nor does it follow logic. As long as two people are happy that’s all that matters. Mr. Olson, Keira, you two must always be happy!”

Serene’s words seemed like the sincerest blessing, but it also reminded everyone of Chloe’s awkward existence.

“Oh my god, proposing in front of his ex–fiancée like this. This is...”

“They already had a face–off while competing for the ring.”

“I suddenly feel sorry for the ex–fiancée....

Lance’s face changed, and he turned to look at Chloe in the audience

She was sitting there with a slight smile, ignoring the whispers around her. Her clear, cold eyes held an expression he had never seen before.

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Looking at Lance’s gaze on Chloe, Serene reminded him again,

“Next up is tonight’s most anticipated mystery auction item!

“It’s said to be the Yours Only by the internationally mysterious perfumer Star!

“This is the work that won her the highest honor in her first competition. She’s an idol in the eyes of all perfumers worldwide and unsurprisingly, Keira’s biggest idol. Mr. Olson, this is truly one–of–a–kind stuff. You have to get it for Keira!”

Lance nodded. His main goal tonight was indeed the last mysterious auction item. It was said to be Star's work that won her the championship in her first international fragrance contest.

When the rankings were announced, Star even crushed the two-time reigning champion, Michelle, causing quite the buzz. Clearly, Star's work back then was top-notch!

!

Unfortunately, for some unknown reason, Star's work never hit the shelves. Now that he finally got the chance, he wanted to see for himself what this piece of work was like.

Back in his seat, the mystery auction item was finally brought out amidst the anticipation of the crowd, Introduced by the host, it was indeed Star's work, Yours Only!

"Interested?"

Damon asked indifferently.

Chloe shook her head, "I'll bid for this one myself!"

Damon glanced at her, his lips pressed into a thin line but he said nothing. That was his tacit agreement.

"Yours Only" had a starting price of one million!

People started bidding, one after another!

Lance was the first to raise his plate, "Two hundred..."

"Ninety million!"

Lance hadn't even started speaking when he was abruptly cut off by a cold female voice. The starting price was one million, and she directly bid ninety million!

How does one even comprehend this leap?

Lance was equally shocked. He slowly turned his head to look at Chloe. He saw Chloe sitting there, holding her plate with a stern face. Her powerful and cold aura made it hard to look directly at her.

Noticing Lance's gaze, Chloe turned her head to him, coldly saying,

"Mr. Olson, are you still bidding?"

Another ninety million... A hint of struggle flashed across Lance's face. Spending so much money in one night, the Olson Group would never allow such recklessness!

But...

"Mr. Olson, you can't let her get this perfume. Keira is really looking forward to it!"

Keira didn't expect Chloe to do this, she was trembling with anger.

She clutched Lance's arm tightly and gently said, "Lance, it doesn't matter if I like it or not. The international competition is coming up, and I want to find some inspiration from Star's perfume and study it. I believe it will be a great help for my participation in the competition..."

Lance was originally in a gloomy mood. Hearing Keira's words, he fell silent for two seconds and then raised his plate again.

"One hundred million."

“Two hundred million.”

Lance’s one hundred million didn’t even have time to surprise anyone, when a cold indifferent voice rang out.

Lance’s brows furrowed, he turned his head and saw it was Damon!

Despair flashed through Keira’s eyes in an instant. She knew she was doomed and would not get “Yours Only” tonight. But in a split second, she felt a hint of relief, as long as Chloe didn’t get it!

Chloe turned her head to look at Damon again. Damon looked at her and said earnestly

“Go for it. Do whatever you want.”

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Chloe shot him a grin before swaggering up to the stage.

“Gimme that Yours Only!”

Chloe demanded immediately as she stood up on stage.

“Yours Only?” The host looked puzzled, but Chloe just shot him a frosty glance.

The host jumped, backing up a couple of steps, then he noticed Chloe eyeing the perfume bottle on the table, and quickly got the hint.

“But this...”

This was the thing Mr. Harper had just shelled out two hundred million for! How could they just hand it over like that?

But before he could say anything more, the auctioneer had already handed the perfume over. Chloe took it, popped the cap, took a whiff, and started grinning.

The crowd watched, feeling sick to their stomachs. The perfume had a bit of alcohol in it, which evaporated super-fast. And this was a two hundred million perfume! Every second it was evaporating was money down the drain.

This kind of thing should be sealed and preserved as a work of art. But Chloe didn't even bother to put the cap back on. Instead, she raised the bottle towards the crowd and said, "This Yours Only. I heard, was the winning piece from Star's first prize at the Fragrance Frenzy. There's only one bottle in the world, isn't there?"

The crowd murmured in confirmation.

Chloe nodded, then turned to Lance. "Star's work should be leagues ahead of Rosanna's, am I right? At least in terms of status, Rosanna's got nothing on Star! And bet more customers would prefer Star over Rosanna. Right, Mr. Olson?"

Lance frowned, but nodded in agreement to Chloe's assertion. "Star is a Fragrance Frenzy International Contest champion, while Rosanna only came in fourth. There's a clear gap between them. In every aspect, Rosanna can't compete with Star."

Chloe smirked. "Remember what you said today."

Lance looked puzzled, having no clue what Chloe was up to.

Ignoring Lance, Chloe turned to Keira. "You're a big fan of Star, aren't you?"

Keira didn't say anything, but the woman next to her snapped, "Is that a serious question? You knew she wanted it and you had to snatch it away!"

Chloe said, "True! I did snatch it because she wanted it. More importantly, I just don't think she deserves it!"

Echoes reverberated through the entire venue! Keira turned pale with anger, her teeth clenched, glaring furiously at Chloe. "What do you mean by that?"

"You're going too far, you're mocking Keira!"

Chloe laughed, "Is this mockery?"

Then she turned to Keira, "Can't even handle a little mockery?"

Then she started laughing again. What happened next left everyone in the room in shock!

Not long after Chloe finished speaking, she smashed the two billion dollar Yours Only onto the floor with the hand she held it in.

The unique scent instantly filled the room. The fragrance was something they had never experienced before.

The loud "crash" seemed to hit everyone's heart, and Keira was especially stunned. She was immediately overwhelmed by a sense of humiliation...

What a bitch!

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Keira was shaking with anger; her face turning ghostly pale.

Everyone could clearly see how violently Keira was shaking from rage. They were all terrified just by looking at her state.

Chloe, seeing Keira trembling with anger, started laughing. She glanced at Lance and Keira, then said casually,

“I’d like to congratulate the mistress for hooking up with her love!”

Everyone was totally confused by this contradicting situation. Despite the confusion, Chloe’s words did manage to bring them back to their senses.

“Can a mistress like Keira get such a grand proposal?”

“Didn’t Keira’s friend just say it? Love has no logic. In this day and age, mistresses are bold and scheming. Otherwise, how would they hook up with rich men?”

“You’re right! Times have changed!”

Their murmurs were like knives slowly cutting ‘through their pretentious facades, leaving them figuratively bleeding.

Chloe’s face lost its smile and her gaze on Keira and Lance turned icy.

Just like that, Lance’s proposal to Keira instantly became a huge joke. With just a few words, Chloe had completely thrown the party off its track!

What should have been an enviable proposal turned into a mess. That tall and slim figure stood alone on the stage under everyone’s gaze. Her cold and strong demeanor was radiating an air of aloof elegance.

Once you gazed at her, you wouldn’t take it back. She had a quality that was destined to be the center of attention.

All eyes were toward the stage, on Chloe. Admiration in everyone’s gaze. Damon, however, was feeling very uncomfortable.

Curiosity got the best of Claud, who was sitting next to him.

“Who would break up with such a beautiful woman’as Chloe?”

Damon’s face changed. That was a question he had wondered about too.

“You’re nosy as hell!”

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Claud just chuckled casually, staring at Chloe as if he was deep in thought.

“But... is the two hundred million dollar perfume... just gone like that?”

Someone blurted this out. The room fell silent for a few seconds before bursting into an uproar Chloe just smashed a perfume worth two hundred million. And this perfume wasn’t even something she had bid for!

What’s more terrifying is that it was something the CEO of the Harper Group had just won at auction. She didn’t get permission. And...she just smashed it?

Keira was fuming. Right now, all she wanted was for Chloe to disappear from her sight.

“Lance...”

She didn’t want to stay here any longer. She grabbed Lance’s hand, wanting to leave early, but then she heard those words.

She looked up slightly, her pale face showing a glimmer of hope. Smashing the Harper Group CEO’s perfume, worth two hundred million was a statement. Even if they had private connections, did it matter?

Tonight, she was mortified. She was eager to see what would happen to Chloe after offending Damon.

Her grip on Lance's arm slowly relaxed. Keira glared at Chloe with a vicious look, but was secretly looking forward to what Chloe would

have to face next.

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Serene immediately shouted, "Chloe, did you realize that was something Mr. Harper just spent two hundred million on? Can you afford to pay for it?"

Chloe turned her head to look at Damon,

The seating arrangements had become chaotic. Many people had moved from the back to the front in order to get a better whiff of the perfume Chloe had smashed.

Now the eyes were on Damon,

Damon sat there, tall and upright, his long legs crossed, his black suit crisp and smooth. His arms were casually resting on the arms of the chair, the diamond cufflinks on his white shirt cuff reflected a dazzling light.

He sat there in silence, exuding a mature and steady elegance. Everyone was holding their breath, waiting for Damon's next move.

The organizer's manager rushed out from backstage, his hands trembling as he continually wiped the sweat from his forehead with a handkerchief.

“Mr. Harper, this, this...”

Damon slowly looked at him, making the manager break out in a cold sweat. However, Damon's gaze just swept over him and landed on Chloe's face.

"Are you satisfied now?"

Chloe replied nonchalantly,

"I guess.

The large venue fell into a long silence. With the unique and elegant fragrance permeating the air, it only made Chloe seem more

ridiculous at the moment.

Someone couldn't help but let out a soft laugh.