

Desires DH 221

Chapter 221

The moment Nathaniel saw Evan, he seemed as though he had seen his savior. Evan had helped him get back at a fat bully before, so he was completely unafraid of him. On the contrary, he felt very close to Evan and wanted to tell him what happened.

Anya was worried Nathaniel might inadvertently blow their cover, so she swiftly covered his mouth and said, "Mr. Welton, thanks for being so concerned about my cousin's children."

Anya tried to pull Nathaniel back as she spoke, but Evan was a man, so he was able to dodge her effortlessly even with Nathaniel in his arms.

After failing to get her son back, Anya got anxious. "Mr. Welton, please return the boy to my aunt."

"Why the hurry? I get along well with Nate," said Evan softly as he wiped the tears from Nathaniel's eyes with his thumb.

Ellie quickly picked up Eudora and carried her first.

All Nathaniel could think of was food. Now that he had Evan backing him up, he pointed at the fruit basket on the table. "I want... bana.." Nathaniel was incapable of pronouncing bananas properly and could only say it halfway.

Evan quickly caught on and smiled indulgently at Nathaniel before turning to ask Anya, "Who sent the fruit basket?"

Anya didn't know what to say.

Did it matter?

"I bought it." Anya wanted to avoid trouble.

“Then why is Mr. Hanson’s card on it?” Evan veered his eyes before he suddenly said, “Come on. Let’s go get him some bananas,”

Anya went speechless.

Was Evan insane?

Those were her children. Why should she agree to this?

“Mr. Welton, can you show some respect for my aunt? They are my cousin’s children afterall. If you honestly like children, you can get married and have as many as you want. Are you sure it is a good idea for you to keep trying to take my cousin’s children? Isn’t it bad for your image?”

“Before any definitive paternity test results are out, I have every right to suspect Nate and Dora are my children,” replied Evan mildly.

Anya instantly wanted to explode. Ellie was so petrified that she did not know what to say.

Rumor had it, it was a bad idea to offend Evan. It turned out not only was it a bad idea to offend him, but the man was also

hard to fool.

“Mr. Welton, if you keep harassing them, I will call the police,” said Anya as she tried to take Nathaniel back. However, it was impossible for her to take him. The man was six feet tall while she was only slightly over five feet.

“Don’t you know it is illegal to forge paternity test results?” asked Evan calmly.

Anya's expression instantly froze, but she kept her composure and said calmly, "I didn't forge anything. Nothing can change the facts that they are not your children. If you want kids, plenty of women out there are dying to bear you children."

Evan pursed his lips and said firmly, "Is it any of your business who has my kids?"

Anya went speechless. She did not want him to keep harping on the subject.

Anya contemplated before she put on a bold front and held his hand as she said, "Mr. Welton, let's go get some fruits. I have something to talk to you about."

Evan narrowed his eyes when she voluntarily held his hand, but he did not put down Nathaniel. Instead, he grabbed her hand and said, "Let's go."

with us?"

The moment he finished his sentence, he turned to look at Ellie. "Do you want to come along with

Ellie did not dare to join them. Instead, she held onto Eudora tightly as she said, "Mr. Welton, it's wrong for you to take the boy."

"I will get another paternity test done. If the test proves they are not my children, I won't keep harassing you," said Evan unhurriedly.

Ellie choked. She was incapable of saying anything.

Instead, Anya was much calmer. "In that case, let's just wait for the paternity test results. However, I hope you can keep your word once the test results prove they are not your children. Please don't go against our agreement."

Evan naturally knew it did not make sense for him to keep harassing the children if the paternity results were negative.

For now, he had reason to suspect these twins were his children.

Chapter 222

“Ellie, I will go get some fruit with him. Why don’t you stay and help take care of Dora?” Anya did not want to keep talking about this. What if Nathaniel suddenly lost control and acknowledged her as his mother?

All her efforts would go to waste. She should just go and buy some fruit with him.

“You have only just recovered. Are you sure you can go downstairs to buy fruit?” Ellie was more concerned about Anya’s health. “I think you should stay put. Why don’t I go with Mr. Welton instead?”

“I am almost okay.” Other than feeling a little weak, Anya genuinely felt a lot better.

However, the moment Ellie brought this up, Evan showed his thoughtful side and look sideways at her as he asked out of concern, “Are you sure you are up for this?”

“Uh huh,” said Anya as she almost rolled her eyes at him..

Even if she was perfectly well, she had no interest in going downstairs to buy fruit with him. She had no choice but to suck it all up since he insisted.

The moment Anya finished her sentence, she picked up her coat from the side and draped it over her shoulders before heading downstairs with Evan.

Nathaniel was very well behaved when they went downstairs together.

Nathaniel immediately knew that Anya did not want him to blurt and call her his mother when she secretly looked at him; so he obediently shut his mouth as he lay prone in Evan’s arms,

Anya and Nathaniel looked at each other and completely disregarded Evan.

Evan was gorgeous, to begin with. He garnered even more attention from the nearby patients and visitors with such a good-looking and adorable young boy in his arms.

The man was as gorgeous as a celebrity. The child in his arms was equally good-looking and his mother was equally stunning.

The patients and visitors had never seen anyone as good-looking as them in their lives. Everyone kept staring non-stop.

They started talking about them in hushed tones.

“Are they celebrities or something? How could anyone be so good-looking?”

“I think so too. People come and go in the hospital all the time, but I have never seen anyone as handsome as him!”

“Who do you think he is? I don’t recognize him. I just can’t help looking because of how handsome he is.”

“I don’t know either.”

“Never mind. Even if he was genuinely a celebrity, we can only look at him from the sidelines.”

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Even though people quickly stopped talking about them and scattering, Evan overheard some of their conversations. He promptly pursed his lips and smiled mildly as he said, “Did you hear them talking about us?”

Anya naturally heard it. People simply felt he was good-looking and looked like a superstar. Did he have to get so proud?

Anya was not about to praise him for his good looks, so she said mildly, "Mr. Welton, I don't know what they said."

"They say Nate looks a lot like me." Evan knew she heard it but was simply pretending she did not. He could not help smiling even harder.

Anya went speechless. She did not want to talk about the children with him and fall into his trap.

Instead, she remained quiet and continued walking for some time until they finally arrived at the hospital fruit shop.

-kind him.

Anya entered first before Evan came in with Nathaniel behind him.

The moment

ment they entered the fruit shop, Nathaniel caught sight of vividly colored fruit and was so excited that he clapped.

as he smiled.

Evan could not help feeling puzzled when he saw how excited Nathaniel was and said randomly. "Aren't there fruits in your house?"

Anya went quiet.

“Nope. I don’t buy them fruit. If I give them too much, they end up not eating their regular meals.” Anya paused when she realized she had said too much. She hurriedly added, “My cousin said they aren’t allowed to have too much fruit.”

“At this age, it is perfectly fine for them to have more vitamins, so there is no reason for you to control their fruit intake,” said Evan as he carried Nathaniel over to a row of oranges and put him down and asked, “Nate, want some oranges?”

Nathaniel naturally wanted some. He wanted oranges desperately, so he kept nodding his head.

His mother did not allow them to have fruit. Since they were only permitted to have them once a week, he was delighted to

see all these fruits.

Chapter 223

“Let’s get more oranges so that you can have them when you get home.” Evan instinctively wanted to indulge Nathaniel and Eudora. He did not know the reason why, but he simply wanted to give them the best whenever he saw those children.

Nathaniel got so excited that he shouted and clapped in joy at the prospect of buying lots of oranges.

He was so adorable that the shop owner was completely tickled. She praised them as she bagged the oranges enthusiastically, “Your kid sure is handsome. After selling fruits here for so long, I have never seen such a good-looking

kid.”

“I am certain he is going to grow up to be just as handsome as his father,” praised the shopkeeper as she bagged a dozen oranges and beamed brightly. “Do you want some honeydew? They were freshly imported today. Since they are very sweet, it is a hit with children.”

Evan did not mind buying some honeydew. “Sure.”

However, Anya felt annoyed. How could he spoil Nathaniel to no end? She hurriedly stopped the shopkeeper and said, "It's fine. Just the oranges will do fine."

Even though Evan was cold and unapproachable on the surface, she could tell he was indulging with children. How could he spoil them to no end? She was now glad that she gave him fake hair samples for the paternity test.

If her children were taken by him, Nathaniel and Eudora would definitely end up growing into privileged brats.

No way on earth she was going to let that happen!

"How can those oranges be enough? The moment he gets hungry, he will finish the oranges in no time. You should get some honeydew and peaches as well" The shopkeeper could tell Evan was a rich man.

After all, the man was dressed in a suit and pants like an office worker and wore a black watch on his wrist. Although she did not recognize the extravagant watch, she could see it was exquisitely made.

People who dressed like this generally had money and could afford to buy more fruit.

"I already said no. I have to do as my cousin says!" When Anya kept insisting on abiding by her cousin's wishes, Evan could not help smiling.

Did she want to prove Nathaniel and Eudora were not his children so badly?

"Erm... Well..." The shopkeeper got startled by Anya. She rolled her eyes a little and said, "Fine, okay. You didn't have to get

so serious about it."

“All done. The oranges cost \$4.50.” The shopkeeper rang up the fruit and handed the receipt to Anya. Just as Anya was about to pay, Evan snapped his fingers and a man in black promptly appeared to pay for them.

He appeared so suddenly that even the shopkeeper got startled.

Also, the bodyguard automatically took the bag of fruit after paying.

Evan said mildly, “Do you want to get anything else for Nate?”

“No, thanks. Let’s go upstairs.” Anya was worried Nathaniel might cave in and blow their cover if they stayed out for too long. “I’m starting to feel a little sick.”

Evan checked the pallor of her face. Since she had just recovered, he did not insist and followed her as he carried Nathaniel upstairs to the hospital ward.

Before they got back to her room, Evan thought about the poisoning incident and asked, “How is the police investigation coming along?”

“Someone deleted the surveillance footage, but they don’t know who did it.” Anya was happy to talk about work.

In fact, she was happy to talk to him as long as it was not about personal matters.

“What did the IT department have to say about this?”

“They don’t know how our surveillance footage got deleted either,” said Anya candidly.

Evan acknowledged softly as he frowned slightly and pondered.

Was someone capable of deleting Welton Group’s surveillance footage?

Who on earth was the culprit?

Even without Anya, he now wanted to get to the bottom of this situation.

Someone was able to delete surveillance footage from Welton Group. Did that mean it was an inside job?

Chapter 224

Evan sat in her hospital ward and had some oranges with Nathaniel and Eudors, Shortly after, he left after receiving a call.

The moment he left, Anya heaved a sigh of relief.

She quickly reminded Nathaniel while he ate oranges, "From now on, don't call me mother when he is around. Got it?"

Nathaniel did not know why Anya wanted him to do that. Since his mother wanted him to do it, he accepted it without

hesitation.

Nathaniel nodded and his little sister nodded in unison as well.

Anya finally felt relieved after they promised to do as she said. She sat on the bed and massaged her temples gently. Things were simply intense earlier.

If Nathaniel was unable to keep up the pretense and blew their cover, they would be in huge trouble.

Ellie felt the same way. It was simply too risky for things to go on like this. "Anya, when are you going to quit?"

“Very soon. Probably this week.” After she was done making Mdm. Welton’s coat, she would tender her resignation.

“Perfect” Ellie felt slightly relieved to hear this as she said nervously, “You have to work quickly on the housing situation. I have already got a real estate agent to get my apartment listed for sale. You need to find an apartment asap so that we can move out.”

Anyn did not expect this level of efficiency from Ellie. “Have you already gotten the apartment listed?”

*I was worried about bumping into Mr. Walton. He is a smart man and we are no match for him.” Despite only seeing him a few times, Ellie had already come up with this conclusion.

The man would never have become the richest man in the country if he was stupid.

“Ellie, I will go talk to Cindy after I get discharged tomorrow. She offered to help me find somewhere to stay.” She was confident about finding a suitable rental apartment with Cindy’s help.

“Sure. Why don’t you lie down a little? I will get you some porridge. I made it myself earlier.” Ellie nodded in relief to hear this. She poured the porridge from the food flask into a small bowl for Anya,

After Anya was done eating the porridge, she took care of the children.

They had eaten too much fruit today, so Ellie was worried they might be too full to eat. Fortunately, they only ended up eating slightly lesser food.

Anya had to spend the night at the hospital, but she did not want her children to suffer at the hospital with her, so she told Ellie to go home first.

In the end, the children kept refusing to leave, so she could only let them stay. Ellie and the kids spent the night sleeping on

the bed beside her.

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apter 224

The night passed in peace until morning the next day.

Since Anya had good rest last night, she felt a lot better when she woke up in the morning. She got Ellie to take care of her discharge paperwork and went home with the children.

There were no bathrooms in the hospital, so Anya and the kids went to bed last night without bathing.

The moment they got back to Ellie's apartment, Anya gave them a bath and changed them into some fresh clothes before calling Cindy to view apartments with her.

Cindy was naturally happy to oblige. She decided to pick Anya up at around 7:00 pm and view some potential apartments

with her.

After hanging up the phone, Anya got changed and put on some makeup before heading to work.

Just as she was about to leave home, Jake gave her a call.

Lola and the culprit who spilled the news was having a press conference today. Since she had to go for the press conference, Jake brought her over with him.

Anya felt anxious just thinking about appearing on camera.

Then again, the sooner she could get this settled the better, even the slight discomfort would be worth it. She quickly brushed aside her uneasiness and immediately calmed herself as she headed to JK Couture.

Chapter 225

Lola's press conference was held at a luxurious hotel's meeting room at around 10 in the morning Anya and Jake arrived half an hour earlier at the entrance of the meeting room on the hotel's top floor

Before Lola was even here, her assistant came over

The moment she saw Anya and Jake, she walked over and asked. "Are you Ms. MacMillan from JK Couture?"

"Yes, I am" Anya looked at her

The assistant immediately smiled at her warmly. "Ms. Mars told me to show you over to her dressing room the moment you are here," said the assistant as she led Anya over to the dressing room nearby

Since it was unsuitable for Jake to join the ladies in the dressing room, he headed over to the conference room to see how things were going

No one else was inside the dressing room when they arrived

After the assistant led Anya into the dressing room, she said, "Ms. MacMillan, please have a seat and make yourself comfortable Ms. Mars should be here in about ten minutes"

Anya nodded. "Sure thing. Thanks"

“You are welcome,” said the assistant as she scrutinized Anya. She was genuinely as stunning as a celebrity

“Oh, is there anything I have to do when the press conference starts?” asked Anya as she glanced around the dressing room while the assistant was checking her out.

“Oh, right. Yes, you do” The assistant finally remembered the script they had prepared for Anya. She hurriedly scratched her short hair and said apologetically, “My bad it completely slipped my mind ”

“Please have a read and try to memorize this. When it is time for you to make a statement, just say this,” said the assistant as she pulled out a piece of paper and handed it to Anya. “There isn’t much for you to say I suggest you memorize it well and try to go off script when it is your turn to speak. Otherwise, the reporters might feel you are insincere

“I see Got it” Anya took the script and started to go over it

Sure enough, it was rather short and contained about five lines in total, she could probably memorize everything quickly

Anya sat down with the script in hand and studied it while the assistant went to bring Lola over

Lola arrived ten minutes later. After she entered the room, she greeted Anya before she proceeded to get her hair and

makeup done

Since Anya was not a celebrity, she did not have to put in as much effort

She sat by the side and waited for Lola After a while, Lola was all set.

They headed off to the press conference together. By this time, a lot of reporters had already arrived at the conference room, so the place was swarming with people. Anya had never seen a press conference in person before, so she was naturally anxious.

Fortunately, Lola was there to try to calm her. Lola and the culprit were the main attraction in the press conference. As the true victim, there was no reason for Anya to be afraid.

Anya gradually composed herself as she sat down beside Lola on a chair in front of the table and waited for the press

conference to commence.

By the time the culprit finally arrived, she came in with her eyes red. She had obviously cried before coming here.

She did not sit down right away. Instead, she stood in front of Lola and Anya and bowed to them before she apologized with all the reporters standing there, "Ms. Mars, Ms. MacMillan, I am so sorry about what happened. I got greedy and exposed Ms. Mars' engagement and wedding gown and pushed the blame to Ms. MacMillan. My actions have caused irreparable harm to you and I sincerely apologize. I am willing to accept any punishment for it"

"Also, I have to apologize to JK Couture and Welton Group. I hope no one in the industry will ostracize JK Couture and its designers since they were not to blame. I was the one who posted the information online for the sake of marketing."

The young woman who was behind the post bowed three times before she sat down beside Lola and waited for the press

conference to commence.

In reality, the young woman's apology had already left the reporters dumbstruck.

The reporters assumed Lola wanted to explain how she ended up engaged today, so no one expected such a turn of

events.

The designer from JK Couture was not to blame. Instead, someone else was behind this.

The reporters were so excited by the news that they raised their cameras and kept taking pictures of the three of them.

Also, Anya, who was previously scapegoated for revealing the secret, turned out to be so incredibly pretty. She was as gorgeous as Lola.

Everyone instantly got distracted and kept taking pictures of Anya from every angle.

The gorgeous man standing behind the conference room in the corner could not help feeling slightly possessive when everyone kept taking Anya's pictures.

Chapter 226

The press conference did not last for long and only went on for approximately half an hour.

At the end of the press conference, the news swept throughout the entertainment and design industry.

People who swore never to be Lola's fans anymore learned she did not deliberately want to conceal the truth after watching the press conference.

She had wanted to officially tell them about it through social media when the time was right, but someone else ended up exposing her and blaming Ms. MacMillan for it.

Everyone quickly took Lola's side and congratulated her on her social media homepage.

[Lola, I wish you joy and happiness.]

[Lola, good luck with everything. We will always be behind you.]

[Lola, we love you! Happy engagement!

[Lola, we will always be your fans.]

The fans reacted very powerfully on social media. Lola's talent agent was so moved that she couldn't stop smiling. She took her iPad and ran up to Lola's side and showed it to her. Lola glanced at it briefly and realized she had won back the support of her fans

All her previous concerns quickly disappeared.

"Lola, it seems we made the right choice to hold a press conference," said the talent agent as she put down the iPad and sighed.

Lola felt the same way as she said happily, "I have Evan to thank for this. If he did not suggest this, I probably wouldn't

know what to do."

"I agree." The talent agent nodded.

After Lola was done chatting with the talent agent, she turned to say to Anya before she left for JK Couture, "Ms. MacMillan, I am so sorry for dragging you down." If she had remained suspicious of Anya, Anya would end up suffering a

lot of online abuse.

Anya's design career would be over.

“I’m the one who should apologize.” Anya could not bear to hear Lola’s apology. It was her job to begin with, but she was too careless and ended up falling for someone’s trap.

“At worst, I would go back to being a star after a month, but things are different for you. If we did not hold the press conference, I know your career as a designer is over,” said Lola as she glanced at the handsome man standing nearby from the corner of her eye. She could not help smiling as she continued, “Naturally, the person we should thank the most is Mr.

Welton.”

Evan? Anya felt thankful of Evan as well.

However, she did not want to show it so blatantly, so she chimed in and said, “We certainly have Mr. Welton to thank for this”

“Shall we do lunch since Evan is here too?” Lola was keen on matchmaking the two of them.

The moment she finished her sentence, Anya was stunned. Evan was here too? Where? Why did she not see him earlier?

Anya instinctively looked around searching for Evan. After checking around the conference room, she finally saw the man standing in a corner right at the back.

He was giving off an incredibly powerful aura as he stood there.

Anya instantly veered her eyes and promptly turned down Lola’s offer to buy lunch. “Probably not. I have to get back to work and Mr. Hanson is waiting outside for me.”

“If Mr. Hanson is here too, you should just join us as well.” Lola told her talent agent, “Go tell Evan that I am buying everyone lunch.”

The talent

talent agent nodded before walking over to Evan.

Anya could not help feeling anxious as she watched the talent agent head over to tell Evan about lunch. She really did not want to eat with Evan, especially with Jake around.

Anya contemplated before saying, "Ms. Mars, let me go check with Mr. Hanson." Anya proceeded to make a run for it.

Lola had no clue of Anya's intentions and genuinely thought she was going to tell Jake about lunching together, so she nodded and agreed, "Sure thing

The moment Lola said okay, Anya went out looking for Jake and went back to JK Couture with him.

Chapter 227

The moment Anya snuck outside, she ran into Jake.

He was in the meeting room earlier but went out to answer the phone. Once he finished, he wanted to go back to the meeting room to find Anya.

She happened to walk out while he was on his way back.

Jake said gently, "I saw Mr. Welton coming over. Shall we go say hi to him?"

Anya refused to go. She hurriedly pretended to look unwell as she said, "Mr. Hanson, my bad. I don't feel good. Do you mind if I go back first?"

"Huh? Are you sick?" Jake was completely unsuspecting of her pretense. Instead, he was genuinely concerned and worried she was ill.

“Maybe I have I

yet to fully recover,” said Anya as she covered her belly. She looked so unwell that Jake dropped the idea of greeting Evan. Instead, he said gently. “In that case, let me give you a ride back to the office.”

He could go over and say hi to Mr. Welton on his own. “Let me go talk to Mr. Welton first.”

Anya nodded as Jake went into the conference room. She watched as Jake went in and was afraid that Evan might come out with Jake to see her if Jake told him she was unwell, so she quietly took the lift to the ground floor.

Anya heaved a sigh of relief and quietly waited for Jake at the hotel lobby.

Meanwhile, Jake went to see Evan reverently in the conference room on the top floor of the hotel.

After Jake went over to Evan in the room, he lowered his head respectfully and said to Evan, “Mr. Welton, I think now that the air is cleared, no one will be able to tarnish the reputation of JK Couture and Welton Group.”

Evan glanced at him and merely acknowledged him taciturnly.

Jake continued, “Mr. Welton, Anya and I will head back to JK Couture first.”

The moment he brought up Anya, Evan finally took interest in the conversation. “Ms. Mars is buying lunch. I’m sure Ms. MacMillan told you about it.”

Jake was stunned and a little lost. “I—I didn’t know about lunch.” No one told him anything about lunch with Lola.

Evan acknowledged him thoughtfully. “Didn’t Ms. MacMillan tell you about it?”

“Ms. MacMillan isn’t feeling well and wants to go back to the company,” replied Jake candidly.

Evan finally figured out what Anya was trying to do. She must be trying to avoid him. Why had it yet to dawn on her that she

could not hide from him forever?

Evan composed himself as he said, “Where is Ms. MacMillan?”

“She is waiting for me outside,” said Jake.

Evan nodded. “Ms. MacMillan was a victim of the incident. Since she is unable to join us for lunch, let’s rain check this.” Evan told the assistant to pass a message to Lola about doing lunch some other time.

Jake, “Mr H

He went on to say to Jake, “Mr. Hanson, in that case, let’s go back to Welton Group together.”

Jake did not dare to have any objection and quickly agreed.

They left the meeting room one after another and took the lift to the lobby. After arriving on the ground floor, Evans spotted Anya standing there as expected.

His eyes turned dark slightly.

Jake caught sight of Anya too and said, “Mr. Welton, Ms. MacMillan is over there.”

The moment Jake finished his sentence, Anya heard his voice and thought he was done talking to Evan. She turned and instantly saw Evan standing in front of Jake and instantly frowned.

Wasn't Evan having lunch with Lola?

What was Evan doing here?

"Ms. MacMillan, I hear you are not feeling well." Anya watched as Evan strode over unhurriedly and halted in front of her. His voice sounded mild and normal as he spoke some distance away from her. It was impossible for anyone to tell there was anything unusual going on between Evan and Anya.

"I—I'm just a little unwell. It's no big deal," said Anya after she composed herself and looked at him. She really didn't want to get dragged to the hospital for a checkup.

Chapter 228

"Oh really?" Evan looked at her deeply as though he might eat her alive..

Anya did not appreciate Evan's staring, so she averted her eyes and said, "Yes, Mr. Welton. Mr. Hanson and I are heading back to JK Couture."

Jake chimed in and said, "Mr. Welton, shall we go?"

"What's the hurry? I have something to talk to Ms. MacMillan about." Evan spoke calmly in a powerful tone, "Ms. MacMillan, why don't you take my car so we can talk on the way back?"

A chill instantly ran down Anya's back. She knew Evan was up to no good.

"Mr. Welton, why can't we talk about it now?" Anya certainly did not want to share a car with him.

Evan smiled as he said, "Ms. MacMillan, it's not like I will eat you alive, right? Do you have to be so reluctant? I am Welton Group's CEO. Why can't I talk to a designer from JK Couture?"

Anya went speechless as she clenched his fists tightly. Evan was doing this intentionally.

“Anya, why don’t you and Mr. Welton go on and take the same car so that you can have a chat?” Jake could tell Evan was a little pissed.

It did not cross Jake’s mind that Evan had other intentions towards Anya.

He simply did not want Evan to think that the people in JK Couture were over their heads,

Anya did not want to go at all, but she bit her lip before she hesitated and said, “Okay”

“Then I’m off to my car.” The moment Jake finished his sentence, he headed to the parking lot.

Anya watched as Jake left before she finally turned to say to the man beside her, “Mr. Welton, if you have anything to say, just do it here. Why should I take your car?”

“You have such a bad temper.” Evan looked at her as he spoke huskily, “I own the company, you know?”

“If this is really about work, I will naturally take your car. I am just worried it is not work you are thinking about.” Anya looked at Evan angrily.

“What could I possibly want to do to you?” Evan laughed softly before he said, “Do you think I will do you in the car? The car is too confined, so it’s hard to have a good time in there. You have nothing to worry about Ms. MacMillan.”

His words were so outspoken that Anya’s face instantly flushed red as she pursed her lips tightly without saying a word.

It was simply too embarrassing. The more she got to know Evan, the more she realized what a hooligan he was even though he had a cold lofty exterior.

“Ms. MacMillan, are you going to stand around outside and let everyone see the blush on your face?” Evan glanced at her

and said, "Let's go. My car is up ahead."

Evan headed over to the car.

Anya glanced at him and suppressed her anger before following behind him.

After they finally got onto the car, Evan leaned back comfortably into the leather seat before telling the chauffeur to drive.

Anya looked at the scenery outside the window as the car gradually pulled out of the hotel. She said coldly. "Mr. Welton, what do you want to talk about?"

Evan certainly did not have any business matters to talk to her about. He closed his eyes slightly as he rubbed the top of her head gently and said indulgently, "Ms. MacMillan, since you are such a smart woman, don't you already know why I want to share a car with you?"

The man's palms felt warm and good.

The moment he touched Anya's head, she could sense electric current coursing through her and instinctively avoided his hand.

Since the car was small, it was impossible for her to dodge him, so she could only let him go on touching her long hair.

"I am a little tired after having a long meeting last night, so I need a nap. After I wake up, I will take you out for lunch," said Evan as he continued touching her soft hair affectionately without doing anything else to her. Then he pulled his hand back and close his eyes to rest.

Anya turned to look at him and realized he was genuinely resting his eyes.

She instantly frowned and pursed her lips without saying a word.

For some reason, it felt strange when she was alone with the man.

Anya did not like this sensation, so she forced herself to look at the scenery outside the car window and stopped thinking

Chapter 229

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The car pulled up at a posh restaurant half an hour later.

Anya was forced to lunch with Evan. Fortunately, he did not try to do anything funny over lunch.

Perhaps he was genuinely overwhelmed with work recently. Even throughout lunch, people kept calling him, so he spent most of the lunch answering the phone.

They went back to Welton Group after lunch and parted ways. He headed to his office on the top floor as she returned to

JK Couture.

All the designers at JK Couture had seen Lola's press conference. Even though Carol and Tammy continued to hate Anya, the rest of the designers suddenly felt bad about treating Anya so harshly.

Anya had not leaked the information at all, but all of them had taken a part in scolding her.

The designers decided to buy an exquisite cake and welcome Anya with the cake when she got back to JK Couture. Anya felt overwhelmed when she saw everyone welcoming her.

For a moment, Anya was even worried they wanted to smash the cake on her, so she instinctively raised her hands to protect herself. Before she was able to raise her hands all the way up, everyone said in unison.

“Anya, we are really sorry for the misunderstanding. We want to apologize to you.”

The moment everyone finished their apology, the head of administration came over with the cake and gave it to Anya on behalf of everyone. “Anya, this is for you. Please accept our apology.”

wa was

Anya

stunned as she looked at them in disbelief. All of them used to hate her a lot.

She could not help feeling moved when they suddenly treated her so well. Now that they had finally accepted her as a colleague, she nodded at the good news before scraping some cream off the cake with her finger and eating it.

It felt absolutely sweet.

“I really appreciate it.”

“I know you never intended for this to happen. Now that the air is cleared and JK Couture’s Reputation is saved, everything

is fine.” The head of administration smiled as she said, “Come in and have more cake. Let’s eat it together.”

“Okay.” Anya nodded as she walked in with the head of administration.

Something good finally came from the incident. Most of her fellow designers changed their opinion of her and stopped disliking her.

This was good news for her. However, it did not mean she wasn't going to quit.

Fortunately, she probably would not have to suffer for the rest of her time here.

At 7:00 PM at night, Cindy came over to Anya's apartment to pick her up.

She had to check out the place Cindy had picked for her. Anya came downstairs from their apartment and happily got into Cindy's Maserati.

The moment she got into the car, she could not suppress her joy as she said, "Cindy, I am so happy today."

"What happened? Did you win the lottery or something?" asked Cindy as she smiled and started the engine.

"Well, I didn't. My colleagues finally changed their opinion of me after the incident," said Anya happily. She was so delighted that even Cindy could sense it..

"Then, are you still quitting?"

"Of course I am. Although I am no longer a target, Welton Group still belongs to Evan, so I can't stay there forever."

Cindy nodded. "That's true. Let's not talk about him tonight. Let me show you the new place."

"Sure."

Cindy found her pretty good accommodations at a villa district called Oak View Mansion.

Oak View Mansion was a high-end villa district, so it was worth far more than the apartment Cindy was currently staying at.

The moment Cindy brought Anya there, Anya shook her head without even looking at the villa and rejected the place right

away.

“How could you get me a villa? I could never afford the rent here.” Anya glanced at the luxurious villa in front of her and thought Cindy was nuts.

“Why not?” Cindy smiled as she patted her shoulder and said, “My parents gave me this villa. To be honest, I don’t like this district or living among wealthy elites. I prefer living in a condo.”

“Then are you expecting me to live here?” Anya did not know what Cindy was thinking.

“Well, yes. You are welcome to stay as long as you want. I will sell the place once you move out,” said Cindy airily.

Anya went speechless. Property here was worth hundreds of millions at least.

“Why are you selling the place? This is an excellent property.”

“If I sell it, I can get a new place! I already told my parents I don’t want to stay in a villa, but they insisted on buying it.” Cindy felt annoyed by her parents and would much rather invest in a high-end condo.

The penthouse floor of upmarket condos consisted of duplexes, so it was as good as living in a villa. Also, the view was much better than a villa.

“No way, I can’t afford the rent,” said Anya in retort. However, Cindy promptly threw the keys at her. “Why can’t you just stay here!”

Anya went speechless.

She simply could not afford to live here!

Never mind. Perhaps she should check out the rooms and think about how much rent she could afford to pay Cindy.

Anya was oblivious about how Oak View Mansion was coincidentally Evan's property investment.

Chapter 230

Cindy continued shaphowing Anya around the villa in Oak View Mansion.

After all, it was one of the most expensive properties in the city, so even though Anya grew up comfortably, it was a real eye-opener. Dazzling chandeliers hung from the ceiling. The tiles had a retro flair to them. All the furniture was automatic.

It was absolutely opulent. It wasn't the sort of place Anya could afford to live.

Although the MacMillan family was wealthy, they were completely out of Cindy's league.

Anya could not help sighing as she looked around, "Cindy, this place is gorgeous."

"Really? Even though I don't like living in a villa, I personally handled its renovation and hired the best interior designers to work on it." The moment Cindy talked about the renovation, she looked absolutely proud of her handiwork.

Anya smiled as she reached her hand out to poke Cindy's adorable face. "Do you have to be so smug? Then again, judging from this wonderful renovation job and how new the villa is, I don't think I can afford to stay here."

"Also, I feel bad about moving in especially if you haven't stayed here before."

“There you go again. Anya, I really hate staying here. Also, I lived here when I came back during the school holidays. Sigh... I was living all alone in a 500 square foot villa. I didn’t even dare to turn off the light at night, okay?” Cindy genuinely did not like the idea of residing in a spacious villa on her own.

When she got married, she would rather live in an upmarket condo with her husband than take the villa.

The villa was so large that it made her feel insecure.

“Are you serious?” Anya felt tickled by Cindy. “If I rent this place from you, I can’t pay you much. I haven’t been confirmed yet, so my basic pay is \$1000, excluding commission. Since I don’t have a lot of projects for now, I only received \$1500

commission so far.”

She only received \$1500 for designing Lola’s wedding dress.

Even though it was not much, it was more than enough for a new designer like her.

For every project worth \$150 000, the designers at JK Couture could get \$3000 worth of commission.

Since she was a rookie, she came cheap.

“I was really hoping to find a cheap place. I need to spend a lot of money on Nate and Dora’s diapers and milk powder every month.” Anya liked the place as well, but she simply could not fork out this kind of rent.

Moreover, she simply wanted to stay somewhere affordable and was hoping to find a place that cost less than \$500 a

month.

Cindy knew Anya felt bad about staying here and couldn't afford too much rent. However, she did not intend to make Anya pay rent to begin with. "Why don't you stay here first and start paying me after you find a new job and things stabilize for

you?"

"You need to spend a lot of money raising Nate and Dora. Just keep your money and buy nicer clothes for my godchildren."

"Are you sure?" Anya did not want to stay here for nothing.

"It's perfectly fine. Don't you know it's bad to let the property sit around empty for too long? The villa has been sitting around empty and feels completely dead. If you stay here, you can help improve its aura." Cindy patted her shoulder and said, "Don't worry about it. Considering our friendship, I don't mind paying for you at all."

Her words left Anya's eyes red. Anya was so touched that she did not know what to say.

"Cindy, you are a real friend. I won't ever forget what you have done for me today."

Cindy smiled without taking it to heart. "We have to be friends forever."

"Yeah." Anya nodded hard in agreement.

"Why don't I show you around a little more? We can go see the bedrooms upstairs," said Cindy as she pulled Anya's hand.

"Sure." Anya followed behind her and went to the bedroom on the second floor.

Jamie came over when he learned Anya was here while Cindy showed Anya the second floor.