## **Desperation 34**

Chapter 34

As soon as Ashley walked into the living room of the Kingsley Villa, she saw Valentin sitting on the sofa.

He crossed his legs leisurely and held his phone, tapping on the black screen.

He looked at her, hiding ineffable emotions in his deep eyes.

Ashley was confused by his gaze. "What's wrong?"

Joseph, following Ashley, was so frightened by Valentin's cold gaze that his legs went limp.

He thought, "Valentin, don't blame me. I didn't wait that to happen either. It's those people who have wild imaginations."

In this weird atmosphere, Ashley's phone rang, and he received a message from Miranda.

They friended each other on Twitter after the final.

Miranda: [Ashley! Check Twitter! There is a rumor about you and Joseph!]

[Ashley, what is your relationship with Joseph? Sorry, I'm just so curious!]

Ashley was puzzled and wondered, 'What's going on?'

She checked her phone and found out that a photo of her and Joseph had been taken and exposed

online.

People were speculating that Joseph was the mysterious man who spent more than 200 thousand dollars for her.

Ashley raised her eyebrows and looked at Joseph. "You aren't Ariml, are you?".

She didn't even know Joseph at that time, so it was impossible for him to send her gifts.

As expected, Joseph waved his hands repeatedly. "It's not me. I don't have that account! Who is Ariml? He actually spent more

than 200 thousand dollars to give you virtual teddy bears. Is he crazy?"

Ashley frowned in confusion, "I don't know either."

Joseph pondered and said, "Could he be your crazy fan? Maybe he was so generous because he likes. you so much. I bet he

must be very rich."

Catching a glimpse of Valentin with a cold face on the sofa, Joseph said, "Even if he's rich, he can't show off like this! Valentin,

he must be insane, right?"

Valentin's face turned more gloomy.

Joseph took out his phone while speaking. "T'll set right the rumor right away. How could those people talk nonsense about my

relationship with Ashley?"

In fact, Ashley didn't take it seriously. "You don't need to be so nervous."

Joseph thought, 'How can I not be nervous? Valentin looks so jealous as if he's going to eat me.

For fear of irritating Valentin, Joseph logged into his Twitter account and quickly posted a statement.

[I'm here to clarify that I'm only Ashley's friend and loyal fan. We're not having a relationship, and Ariml is not me! Please stop

spreading the rumors.]

Joseph was once on the trending topic because of his outstanding appearance. In addition, he was born into a rich and powerful

family, so he had many fans on Twitter.

As soon as his clarification was posted on Twitter, it caused a heated discussion in the comment area.

[I've read it! So, Joseph and Ashley are not in a relationship, and he is not Ariml.]

[Crap. Joseph is Ashley's friend and a loyal fan. Ashley is so awesome!]

[The suspense is killing me. Who is Ariml?]

After Joseph clarified on Twitter, he looked at Valentin expectantly, but he felt worried at the same time.

"Valentin, do you know who is Ariml? He must have ill intentions to send Ashley teddy bears. I don't think he is a good person."

Valentin still didn't speak.

Joseph looked very anxious and kept offering Valentin advice.

Joseph thought, 'Facing such a powerful love rival, why isn't Valentin worried at all? Maybe Valentin doesn't care about the teddy

bears at all. After all, he spent 20 million dollars at the auction to buy a necklace for Ashley. How can this Ariml compare?"

While Joseph was cheering for Valentin, an idea flashed across his mind.

He screamed inwardly, 'Valentin looks so calm. Could he be Ariml?!"

Joseph was shocked by this possibility and almost choked.

Ashley asked in puzzlement, "What's wrong? Do you want some water?"

Joseph accidentally found the truth and couldn't react for a while. "No, Ashley. I'm fine."

'It must be Valentin! He got to be Ariml! Otherwise, how could he be so calm? Damn! I even said Ariml is insane and has ill

## intentions....

Thinking of this, Joseph was in despair and even imagined the worst-case scenario.

"Valentin..." Joseph swallowed in fright and tried to make up for his mistake. "Don't take my words seriously. Ariml sent so many

teddy bears to Ashley, and he must be a good person! I believe he is a handsome and rich man!".

Valentin glanced at him casually without saying anything.

Joseph was more confirmed about his speculation.

He still couldn't believe Valentin hid his identity and went to Ashley's livestream room.

Joseph wanted to stay for a meal, but he had something to deal with and left after answering a call.

Before leaving, Joseph winked meaningfully at Ashley.

Ashley was confused, wondering. 'What is he doing?"

Looking at Joseph's leaving figure, Ashley asked in puzzlement, "What's wrong with him?"

She couldn't understand why Joseph's attitude toward Ariml changed so quickly.

Valentin raised his eyebrows and explained, "He has been very lively since he was a child."

Judging from his tone, Ashley could tell he had been used to Joseph's eccentric character.

She sat on the sofa and raised her hand to squeeze her shoulders. Today's dance competition was a little strenuous, and her shoulders were a little sore.

After a while, Valentin's husky and magnetic voice sounded in her ears. "Would you mind?" Ashley was slightly startled.

Valentin put his hands on her thin shoulders and began to massage with a moderate force.

"No, no. I'll do it myself." Ashley felt ill at ease.

Valentin didn't give her a chance to dodge."

He turned sideways and gently squeezed her shoulders, looking very skillful. "Come on. You used to enjoy it in childhood."

Ashley was speechless for a moment.

Valentin lowered his eyes and glanced at her. As he was sitting behind her, he could only see her tender profile and soft

earlobes.

He raised his eyebrows and said tongue in cheek, "Don't you remember you often bossed me around, huh?"