

Chapter 36 Thirty-six

I struggled to walk away from the cafeteria as I approached the reception and could feel the receptionist's eyes on me.

She had a hint of pity on her face, but I knew it was just because of the rumours spreading in the company, and I didn't wish to be laughed at or pitied by anyone.

Especially not after I'm just returning to a new place, but who could have started this? It isn't true and it brought back hurtful memories in my head.

I have memories from high school when the popular boy in school was getting close to me. Even though I was keeping my distance from him, the whole school managed to know about it and started to call me all sorts of names and put my pictures on the walls of the school with bad names printed on them.

Eventually, the same boy I was trying to avoid saved me from embarrassment by calling the students out for their misdeeds in public. That made him earn my trust, and I thought I finally had a friend until the day he tried to force himself on me after a little kiss on my cheeks.

I had pleaded with him that I wasn't ready for any of those and became dumbstruck by the words he said to me afterwards.

"We all know you want me, so why are you playing hard to get? You want me to lose this bet so badly, don't you? " He spat as I stared at him in awe before storming out of the empty classroom to meet other students pointing their phones at me and chuckling.

It was a nightmare for me, and I was traumatised for weeks. The school couldn't do anything about it and called it "children's matters".

Ever since that day, it has been hard for me to give my trust to anyone. Maybe I was better off alone at first, and maybe I'd be alone forever.

Hearing the people here call me the same thing brought back the memories I swore to bury, and it was in no way pleasing.

I don't even know this man, yet rumours like this are spreading on my first day at work.

I could still see the receptionist's eyes on me as she stared with pity, but I was done with their shenanigans and decided to leave for my personal space. I was glad I didn't have to share my office with anyone.

I met with the lady known as "Cookie" before opening the door.

At least she was the only sincerely nice person in the entire building, so it wouldn't hurt to have a little chat with her to clear my mind off.

"Hey," I said as she stared at me, but instead of responding, she had a scornful expression on her face and only focused her gaze on her perfectly manicured hands.

"Hey," she finally responded without any emotions and shifted her gaze to me. But the moment she brought her face to mine, a smirk tucked at the corner of her lips, giving me a perplexed look.

"Is something wrong?" I asked while giving a light chuckle to lighten the atmosphere around us, but she looked like she was here for business and not for jokes.

"Actually yes!" She responded.

"Yes, there's something wrong and I'm not pleased with it. You seemed like a sweet girl at first, but little did I know that you were just a slut and would do what others wanted to do. "

"Cyrus has never paid attention to any of the workers, yet he's somehow paying attention to you. " She said, after eying me while I stood frozen in shock and could only stare at her with a look of disbelief.

" I don't care about you or whoever you are, but you better know your place if you don't want me to bite you. Stay away from Cyrus, I won't say more than that! " She hissed before turning her back and walking away in her silver heels and suit pants.

"What's wrong with everyone here?" I thought to myself as I stood in front of my office in disbelief. I'm new here and this is my first day in the office. I honestly don't know what their burden is. There was no way I was going to let Cyrus get close to me after the lesson I learned in high school.

My gaze suddenly shifted to Cyrus's office window and I saw him standing behind the window with his hands in his pants as he stared straight at me. On noticing that I had caught him staring at me, he didn't bother to look away, so I was quick to enter my office and shut the door behind me.

Why was everyone in this building creepy in their way, and wasn't the cookie lady supposed to be queried for threatening me while he only stood there and watched?

I angrily sat on the chair with my body fuming in anger. I tried to calm myself, but everything didn't seem to be working.

I can't wait to find another job and leave here for good.

When I realised everything was too heavy for my chest, I needed to empty my thoughts and mind. I decided to call Sage in hopes of her having some free time to spare.

"Hey a-hole," she greeted over the phone as she picked up on the third ring.

"Hello," I said.

"What's wrong?" She asked, and I could sense that she knew I was troubled with something.

"Just that I somehow managed to make everyone in the office hate me on my first day." I sighed and I could swear I felt her rolling her eyes.

"We all know you're annoying, so that's nothing new," she answered over the phone, while I smiled a little. Talking to her alone had the power to make my mood lighten.

"But what exactly happened?" she asked after a while of silence.

"I'm being called a fucking whore just because I got the job and everyone thinks I'm seeing the boss." I sighed and could hear her chuckling.

"Come on, they're just dumb ass and filled with jealousy. You don't have to worry about them, "she answered.

"Where did all my teachings go to? "You're a bad bitch, so don't let their petty words get to you," she added, with a high-pitched voice that immediately made me break into laughter.

Sage has truly been my medicine ever since we started college together.

