The Enchanted Night - Chapter: 161

Ready To Propose To Her

Rufus couldn't feel his face. He was desensitized from his surroundings. He even failed to notice Cassandra's cry of pain.

The only thing he focused on was the feeling he felt when he witnessed Cassandra getting out of Dylon's car. It was like a bucket of ice water pouring onto him. He couldn't believe what he saw.

His mind was occupied by this. He didn't notice his thrusts were getting harder and harder. Cassandra bit down on her lower lip, drawing blood. She tried to stifle her moans until the torture ended. She fell asleep soon after they were spent. The corners of her eyes still glistened from the tears even when she was already asleep.

Rufus, on the other side of the bed, couldn't sleep. He put on some clothes and walked out of the room. He went down and stood in the middle of the garden with an emotionless expression.

He lit up a cigarette and was soon letting out puffs of smoke. The smoke clouded his already cold expression.

The night wind gently kissed his face. The flowers he helped Cassandra plant swayed in tune with the breeze. They were already sprouting out small green leaves. They seemed to make the garden look alive, a stark contrast to how Rufus was feeling at the moment.

Rufus took out a velvet jewelry box from his left pocket and grasped it with his hand. He gently flipped it open, and a beautiful ring with a clear-cut diamond at its center appeared.

It was a platinum ring decorated with four claws that held the gem. The ring itself was simple, but one look from even a non-expert would know that it was priceless.

The diamond was imported from overseas. It cost him a ton of money to acquire it from an auction abroad. It had the highest grade of clarity and color, and was even more rare because of its carat weight.

Rufus heeded Jasper's advice. He thought that this would really show Cassandra how committed he was to their relationship. He would give her a home, their very own home. That was when he began planning a proposal to her.

He thought last night was the right time.

The Range Rover's trunk was filled to the brim with Ecuadorian roses. He planned to make Cassandra open the trunk, and then get down on his knees as soon as she was surprised.

He texted her and informed her that he would be at the Garden Villa came the evening. To his disappointment, Cassandra didn't reply. He was extremely worried, so he called her. It went straight to voicemail.

Rufus tried to reassure himself that Cassandra must have an emergency, or a good reason. As soon as he got off work, he drove to the villa as fast as possible to wait for her. He waited for 3 hours. She was dropped off by Dylon.

Rufus felt so empty. He hated himself for being so stupid, but he also felt sad and hurt.

Cassandra wasn't even his first woman. Ever since he and Amanda broke up, he buried himself in building up the company so he hardly had any

time for a serious relationship. But every man had his needs. He had plenty of flings to attest to that.

But Cassandra was different.

Other women fell in love with his physique or his money, since he was a generous lover. They all wanted something from him. Cassandra, though, disappeared immediately after the night they slept together. She didn't even leave her phone number.

This made its mark on Rufus. He was driven insane by his curiosity about her. When he did eventually get to know her better, he set his sights on conquering her.

She was beautifu

It all starts on that fateful night.

When Ella, who is the dear sister of Samuel's best buddy, sneaks into the hotel where the drunken Samuel resides and gets pregnant...

'I don't want a divorce!"

'I don't want a divorce!'

'I did no such thing!'

Ella jumped on the bed and cried out. 'I don't want a scheming woman as my wife. Just sign the paper...

ay that!

The photos were obviously taken by a low-end phone since they were so blurry. They were apparently taken yesterday when the three of them were having hot-pot.

Though they weren't clear, Cassandra recognized Lyndsy's profile. Dylon sat across her was also easily identified.

Strangely, Cassandra wasn't present in the photos. Her body was covered by a big palm tree planted indoors.

'When I signed the contract with the company, there was a term that specifically said I couldn't have a relationship for the duration, or I'll have to pay a huge amount of money!'

It was obvious that Lyndsy was panicking right now. Her hands were balled into tight fists, and she was quivering.

'Earlier this morning, I went to the company to discuss the contract further. They refused and said this stupid post did serious damage to the image they so carefully built. Now there are some bad comments about me online. They said I caused a huge loss to the company and they even threatened to take legal action against me!

Lyndsy grew more agitated as she went on. She thought that when the contract expired, she could finally be free. She never expected this to happen so close before her contract came to an end!

'Lyndsy, calm down! Let me see the comments first.'

Cassandra opened the profile who posted the photos. The person seemed to be an average young man, not paparazzi who followed Lyndsy everywhere. Unfortunately, this worked against Lyndsy since people would believe a normal person more than a mere paparazzi.

The photos bugged her even more. They all were taken specifically at angles which left Cassandra out. They seemed to be taken right when Dylon and Lyndsy were discussing about photography. One was taken when Dylon and Lyndsy were huddling close since she was showing

something on her phone. They looked quite intimate. If someone who didn't know them saw this photo, he would surely mistake them as a sweet couple.

She scrolled down further towards the comments section. The comments took her by surprise. There were really venomous comments aimed at Lyndsy. They called her a liar.

To be fair, celebrities were also human. It was normal for them to form relationships. It wasn't anything new. Why was this such a serious problem for Lyndsy? It all seemed strange.

My Girlfriend

Cassandra pored over social media posts and found that many of them were from major personalities who had overwhelming following in the internet. There was an endless string of comments after the posts.

Cassandra continued checking their tweets and posts. After a while, it was clear to her that these were all negative reports about Lyndsy.

'Lyndsy is hard to get along with. It is already a known fact in the entertainment industry. She will go through any length to maintain her popularity, even if the actions are questionable.'

Comments of the same nature could be seen everywhere. It shocked Cassandra. She had no idea what to make of it.

'When a wall is about to collapse, everybody gives it a push,' Lyndsy sighed. 'I know who I am. I don't think about other people's feelings. I deserve it.'

She leaned back on the chair as she spoke. Frustration was boiling inside her, but she held her lips tightly shut. Looking at her now, it would be impossible to think of her as a super star. Her hair was mussed, her skin pale, and her eyes had no trace of life in them. It seemed that she was now ruined, and there was nothing she could do to improve the situation. Cassandra felt sympathy for her even as she read the negative comments about Lyndsy.

She had started out as a child star. It was said that she came from poverty. Therefore, she worked a lot more and much harder than other actresses.

Her breakthrough came when she starred in an action movie. There were a lot of physical scenes, but she chose not to use a body double, saying that she wanted to make the fight scenes look more real and vivid. She went to action school and dedicated all her time in learning the stunts. During one of the scenes in the film, she once got a fracture and often came home bruised. Her passion translated into the big screen and everyone lauded her true-to-life performance.

Lyndsy reaped the fruits of her hard-earned position and her name was cemented in the industry when she was nominated in an international film festival for that film. Despite not bagging the award, she made a deep and lasting impression on domestic and international reporters alike. For days, her name poured out of the headlines, and the film that she starred in was a gigantic box office success.

After that, producers and directors flocked to her, offering her the lead parts. Everyone wanted her, and everything she appeared in was a guaranteed success. Soon enough, she became one of the top box office earners. Many well-known actors and directors mentioned her as someone they wanted to work with. All her hard work had paid off into such astonishing achievements.

Lyndsy had always be outspoken. People who truly knew her would praise her with the frank and direct way she had of handling things. However, success had a lot of pitfalls. Alongside praises, there were also plenty of criticisms about her, describing her as a mean gossipmonger.

Cassandra tried to comfort Lyndsy, 'Don't worry. There are always news of this sort in the entertainment industry. I'm sure that the noise would die down soon enough. We can still fix this.'

'Fix it? How?' she spat bitterly. 'As things stand now, I have no other option but to leave the company. They wouldn't even let me stay until the end of my contract. Their value will plummet if they allow it; and even if they do, they would just use this chance to put me in a leash and control me. I won't have that,'

Lyndsy spoke, red-cheeked with rage. She had been in the industry long enough, and she knew those senior executives as well as she knew the back of her hand. They were the sort with tons of money who treated people ruthlessly, and all they cared about were filling their pockets. They would resort to the lowest, unspeakable means if it meant their bank accounts would fatten up.

It was more than likely that money was involved with the outpouring of the social media posts.

In normal circumstances, when such thing happened to celebrities, their companies and agents would waste no time and act quickly to try to quell the damage and rebuild their image with PR campaigns and strat

When her boyfriend betrayed her, all light and joy was gone from Cherry's life. Deserted, bereft of hope, she married a man that she had barely met, but she had never expected him to be her ex-boyfriend's uncle.

Cherry thought that she had finally found her happiness, but she had no idea about the dark secrets that were bound to unfold and haunt her forever...

scene.

The man was a paparazzi. He had been tailing them for quite some time now; but the moment he finally got a good picture, Dylon deleted it. Now, he had no material and might even get sacked.

'You know that you're the one being unreasonable. I don't want to talk with scum reporters like you. Leave now, or I'm pressing charges,'

Dylon snapped back.

It was just one shock after another. Cassandra had never seen Dylon so angry. His jaw was clenched tight and his knuckles were digging into his palms. She could almost feel the heat of his fury.

It was probably true that gentle and decent men were the worst when angered. She looked at him and felt anxious at the sight of his hard expression.

The man muttered to himself and left reluctantly. Dylon, Cassandra and Lyndsy sat around the table, still not knowing what to do.

After what happened, they were more aware of the eyes around them. One waitress in particular seemed to recognize Lyndsy, and she kept throwing looks to their direction. The trio realized that it might not be a good idea for them to stay any longer, especially after the scene with the man earlier.

Lyndsy spoke up first, 'Let's call it a day. Cassandra has to go to work any way. I'll see you guys another day.'

She sounded frustrated. They had spent a lot of time and energy but came up with nothing helpful.

'Lyndsy, please don't worry. I promise I'll keep thinking of a solution,'

Cassandra reassured, trying her best to comfort Lyndsy. The three of them stood up and walked to the door.

Nothing could have prepared them for the sudden crowd that gathered around them at the door. The man from earlier was in front. He wore a fake smile as he spoke to them.

'Ms. Su, are you on a date with your boyfriend?"

There were multiple flashes from around them, phones and microphones were thrust in their faces from all directions. They could barely make out the sentences as all the reporters spoke simultaneously, asking for statements and answers.

'Ms. Su, there's a rumor going around that you will leave the entertainment industry and marry your boyfriend. Is it true that you're pregnant with his baby?'

'Ms. Su, your boyfriend is a photographer who earns a lot of money. Is that the reason you quit the show business?'

Cassandra struggled to stay on her feet as they got pushed around. 'What kind of questions are these? They are ridiculous!' Cassandra thought to herself.

Then Cassandra looked at Lyndsy. She was grinding her teeth and fuming. Cassandra had to think of something quickly before things got worse.

Suddenly, Dylon pulled the woman into his arms and smiled at the reporters.

'This is my girlfriend. Please stop asking me such nonsense. She will be angry with me.'

Dylon s Declaration

A sudden hush fell over the hubbub of th crowd. One could almost hear a pin drop within the dead silence.

All eyes were fixed at the three people at the center of the issue in question, mouths gaping in shock. Flashes of the cameras halted and hands holding the microphones hung awkwardly suspended in midair even as the media's gaze scrutinized their every movement, looking for signs that would give any secrets away. However, their eyes failed to penetrate their expressions, especially Lyndsy's, as she was wearing huge sunglasses. Thankfully, it served as a good cover up. Nobody would be able to tell her shock beneath the dark shades of the lenses despite the practiced smile on her face.

The next thing Casssandra knew was the sensation of Dylon's arms wrapping around her waist and drawing her closer.

His words and actions were like tranquilizers injecting into the veins of the excited crowd. No one had uttered a word since his declaration. The situation seemed too sudden to completely sink in. Feet were planted into the road in this stupefied silence.

It was Lyndsy who recovered first. She took her sunglasses off, and flashed a big smile to the crowd that had gathered around them.

'I believe the misunderstanding has been cleared up now. As you have just heard, I was having dinner with two of my friends the other day, and I have no idea why it was only me and my male friend on the photos. Camera angles, maybe? I'm sure you would know better than me,' she remarked cheerfully, although the implication rang loud and clear to everyone. Either that, or the photos were framed! She chose to leave this last part out. Judging from the reluctant gazes of the reporters, she knew they understood the bite in her seemingly harmless words. 'Please give my friends privacy. They're not celebrities, and this is harrassment. The next time this happens, you can be sure that we would take action,' she ended, emphasizing the last sentence in a strong and clear voice.

After her words, Lyndsy flashed her billion-dollar smile again. Its warmth had a startling contrast to the coldness in her eyes as she gave an once-over to the reporters in front of her.

Cassandra's mind had completely shut down as she tried to make sense of what had just happened.

'Girlfriend? What were you thinking, Dylon? You should have discussed with me first! Or maybe even given me a hint at least, 'she thought to herself as she struggled to untangle her thoughts.

Gradually, all the media and the paparazzi came to their senses and looked at one another in dumb silence and disbelief.

They had been tailing Lyndsy for the past days to dig up some more dirt. When the news of her dating blew up on the internet, they were sure that they hit the jackpot; and they watched her more closely than ever, knowing it was only a matter of time before a juicy secret revealed itself to them.

The man who snapped a photo at the cafe was one of them. They had sent him to take the pictures of Lyndsy and her so-called boyfriend, but to their surprise, it seemed that they had completely missed the mark.

Dylon's earlier declaration that Cassandra was his girlfriend, not Lyndsy, had left them speechless. The scenario had not crossed their minds. What now? They would look like fools who made a great fuss over nothing. They thought they were digging for gold, which turned out to be useless rocks in the end.

Seeing that his words had taken the journalists by surprise and confusion, Dylon felt his irritation dissipate, replaced by a certain mischief. A smirk tugged at the corner of his lips.

He bent his head and 'kissed' Cassandra on her forehead. His lips did not touch her skin—he merely hovered above her long enough to give them the illusion. He knew that it would confirm his words.

Then he turned to the crowd and smiled, his eyes glinting with mischief. After what they put him through, he felt a distorted sense of satisfaction. He would play them to the end. He was entitled to that much.

'Lyndsy was having dinner with us the other night, so please stop making stories up from unknown and unreliable sources. It hurt both my girlfriend and Lyndsy, and it won't bring you anything but court cases. However, I admire your hard work. You people from the media really have it hard, don't you? I respect your dedication,' he paused to keep himself from smirking at his words. 'The milk tea and cakes here are wonderful. Please help yourself with them. I'll pick up the tab fo

The Mighty Soldier King is back!

With the original intention to protect his beautiful boss, he accidentally gets involved in dangerous adventures and trouble.

Will our Mighty Soldier King be defeated? Or will he sweep away all obstacles?

e felt like she could breath. She was feeling good because things got sorted out, even for a little bit, and it was obvious to Dylon that she didn't take his words seriously. He shook his head silently, but said nothing else.

'Hmm,' the two of them were startled to hear Cassandra speak as she checked her watch. 'I have plans this afternoon and I need to go back to my company now,' she said, shifting her gaze between them with a curious look in her eyes.

They had been talking so familiarly, and it was as if they've forgotten her existence. Time flew by that day, and before they knew it, it was past afternoon.

'I'll take you there,' Dylon hurriedly offered.

Cassandra shook her head and smiled politely at him.

'No, it's only a few blocks away. I can manage. Please take care on your way back,' she said with finality in her tone.

Then she waved to them and turned around to walk to the direction of her company. Dylon stood and watched her, lost in his own thoughts.

'Thanks, buddy!' Lyndsy said casually.

She patted him on his shoulders. Dylon was pulled from his thoughts at the contact and his gaze fell on the shoulder where her hands briefly landed. He wore a blank expression on his face, but he was stunned by her sudden movement. The real Lyndsy was nothing like the roles she played in the movies. She was always an elegant, noble lady in films; but the woman standing in front of him now was much simpler and honest. She had an almost childlike air to her, and at times she had a certain boyish charm to her movements.

However... Dylon liked the less-than-perfect, real life Lyndsy much more than the ideal woman everyone else saw on screens and in theaters. She was full of life, and her edges and faults only served to magnify her brightness. The image of her twnkling eyes as she grinned without restraint came back to him. 'That's not a bad look on her face, 'Dylon thought to himself.

At this time, Lyndsy had turned around and walked away from him, her pace confident and brisk as it sounded on the pavement.

Dylon lingered for a little while. He looked up at the dark clouds that had gathered against the expanse of the blue sky. It was going to rain.

Moving step by step to the company, Cassandra felt the earlier heaviness tug at her more fiercely now that she was alone with her thoughts.

A moment ago, when Dylon announced that she was his girlfriend in front of so many people, she was astonished at first. But later on, the surprise was replaced with a melancholy as she thought of the relationship between Rufus and her.

She couldn't help but wonder, would there come a day when Rufus too would declare their relationship proudly in front of all people, regardless of the reaction of her mother or his father, just like Dylon did just now? Cassandra bit her lip as she ignored the hollowness that had now turned into a stabbing pain. Steeling herself, she willed her legs to move, even as every step felt much, much heavier.

A sad smile formed on Cassandra's lips. The miserable day made her feel depressed.

Previously, love was a taboo between Rufus and her because she had been married to Lionel. Now that she had gotten a divorce, they were still in the same place.

Was he waiting for a good time? Or was he not thinking about it at all?

Cassandra raised her head. The billboard at the crossroad ahead had been replaced, but it was still an image of Amanda.

She made a bigger splash in G City compared to other female stars. Cassandra heard from her employees that she would be appointed as the tourist ambassador of G City.

It was clear that Rufus loved Cassandra only. However, every now and then, Cassandra would find out something or hear something that would make her heart drop.

Amanda used to be with Rufus until he broke up with her. When he did, she didn't press on and Rufus didn't bother to give an explanation too. They just parted ways and now their romance was nothing but a thing of the past.

However, Cassandra couldn't get over it.

In big bold letters and a spring-like theme, Amanda's billboard was definitely something.

Cassandra stood on the other side of the road and just gazed at the image of Amanda smiling on her billboard.

She was a beautiful woman and very few men could resist her given her identity.

When Cassandra returned to the company, she wasn't in the best mood. As soon as the elevator doors dinged open to her floor, an assistant walked up to her right away.

'Manager Qin, Mr. Wang is waiting for you in the office.'

Cassandra was the boss of Qin Group on paper, but she didn't want anyone to call her President Qin. In her heart, it was still Vernon's position.

'Okay. I'll meet him now.'

Cassandra lifted her spirits by pasting a smile onto her face.

Mr. Wang was an important client. They presented the design draft yesterday. He might have come today to seal the deal and talk about further business.

'Manager Qin...'

The assistant opened her mouth and then closed it for several times—she was hesitant to speak.

'What's wrong? Is everything okay?"

Cassandra could feel her insides dropping as she sensed the assistant's hesitance.

'Manager Qin, Mr. Wang seems to be unsatisfied with our design.'

The assistant frowned. Worry was etched on her face. When Mr. Wang arrived at their office, his face was twisted into a scowl. The assistant served him tea before calling Cassandra. Cassandra had come right in time.

Cassandra was nonplussed as she listened to the assis

'Do you know what you did wrong? It's alright if you just wanted to own me. But you should not have helped Molly leave me!

When Brian learns the truth, there is no chance for Hannah to win his heart.

Molly, who wants to run away from Brian, seems to be the only one to blame for Hannah's misfortune...

t budge on making Cassandra sign her name as the designer.

'Mr. Wang, I believe that as a CEO, you should take the interests of your company seriously and it should be your priority. When I worked as a designer in the past, I devoted myself to my work. Design was my top priority, and I didn't need to worry about other things. However, since I took over Qin Group, everything has changed.

A manager should make decisions based on the interests of the whole company and not just one side. For example, for this draft—while I can easily sign my name on it, but it would be terribly unfair to its real designers if I do that, right? They worked very hard for this design and if I sign my name on it, I would be taking credit for their hard work.

I personally chose all my designers. They deserve to sign their names on this draft because they worked on this. I won't deprive them of their right to do that on account of my personal affairs. I believe you can understand that, Mr. Wang.'

Cassandra's sincere, reasonable arguments silenced Mr. Wang.

Cassandra sensed his hesitation, so she went on, 'Mr. Wang, rest assured that we value your project very much and we will work very hard on it. My signature will not change anything because we'll work hard nonetheless. Having Qin Group design your project will be your greatest investment.'

Mr. Wang looked at Cassandra and gave a hearty laugh.

Cassandra heaved a sigh of relief when Mr. Wang let out that laugh.

He shook his head with an easy smile and said, 'Haha. Vernon's daughter is remarkable indeed. You are much more capable than your father. A ragged colt may make a good horse. Keep going and surely you'll go places!'

The Petite Woman In The Bathtub

Mr. Wang finally stood up, design plan in his hands. He nodded to Cassandra with a satisfied smile on his face, his curious expression now long gone.

'Ms. Qin, I believe that your company's success will be beyond expectation. You have the ball at your feet! Please accept my congratulations in advance!' he smiled sincerely.

Cassandra's sheer confidence dispelled whatever doubt he had before. He looked at her approvingly before turning to leave her office.

Cassandra thanked him eagerly and promised to not let him down.

Once he was out of earshot, she squealed in delight for successfully nailing down the business transaction.

Her happiness was short-lived, however, when it finally dawned on her how exhausted she had been. Since she was the operator of the group, her mother was unable to help and her sister was too young to understand, she had to do most of the work herself. But no matter how frustrated she was, Cassandra knew it was all worth it. Her father must have felt the same when he started the group. She smiled to herself.

Although she had won several grand design prizes before, Cassandra promised Lionel that she wouldn't work on designing in the next two years, which somehow restricted her to gather a larger clientele for her company.

Most of the cases they undertook were similar that of Mr. Wang, and many clients came to her for the sake of her previous works. She quietly hoped that the group could provide them with some brilliant works in order to establish a long term cooperation relationship. Facts speak louder than words. However, if she was just able to design again, she knew she could have gathered a larger network of prospective customers.

A loud clap of thunder broke her from her thoughts as she suddenly felt her feet quake beneath her. She got dizzy as she noticed the glass windows rumbling.

Cassandra knew it wasn't vertigo, but she couldn't figure out what it was. She closed her eyes until the shaking subsided.

As if on cue, her phone beeped to alert her of the news. She quickly took her phone out to check.

It said that a 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck A city. The alerts updated her every other minute. The earthquake and the thunder shower triggered

several landslides and there were still unconfirmed reports on casualties. The earthquake was strong enough to affect the surrounding cities.

G City wasn't very close to A City, but citizens there also felt the strong vibration.

Taking several deep breaths, Cassandra slowly stood up from her chair despite her dizziness.

When she opened the door to leave her office, the hallway was in utter chaos. Her employees were all scattered outside, discussing the earthquake.

'It was so scary! I saw the ripples in my mug and thought that I shook the desk by accident!' a female employee said.

Her voice was trembling and shaky.

'My uncle and his family are in A City. I tried calling them but I still couldn't reach them! I'm so worried,' another employee cried out.

She was about to burst into tears and some of her colleagues gathered around to comfort her.

'Don't worry. They must just be busy ensuring they're safe so they don't have time to call you. That, or the connection might just be too busy because everyone's doing the same thing. Just try again later!

'She's right! Don't worry. I'm sure they'll contact you once they're safe!

Cassandra cleared her throat when she approached the huddled crowd, and all of them quickly grew quiet and looked at her.

'Let's all call it a day! The weather report says it's also going to rain soon. Please be careful, and make sure that all of you message me as soon as you're home,' she said.

She knew it was the right

Drugged one night by her ex-boyfriend, a mysterious man took advantage of her in an ecstatic night filled with sex. To take her revenge, she married the man, and used him. 'As long as I'm alive, I'm still his legal wife, while all of you are just his mistresses.' She remained adamant even when he was involved in scandals with other women...

, he ordered.

He sounded incredibly irresistible and Cassandra was overwhelmed by his cool voice.

She took her nightgown off and threw them aside, blushing. The wet clothing landed with a soppy flop on the tiled floor.

Rufus still glared at her, but he couldn't help swallow at the sight of her naked form.

'Are those two plants really more important than your own body? You'll pay dearly for it in the future! Everything in the world is apart and outside of you but your health, because your health is the only thing that belongs to yourself!' he chided once more, trying to not get distracted at her beautiful figure.

Rufus didn't plan to come to the Villa today, but the thunderstorm changed his mind and he was afraid that Cassandra would be terrified alone.

He drove back as quickly as possible, only to see her standing outside like an idiot.

With her back to him, she didn't notice his car and was busy covering the plants against the strong storm. Her stubborn figure reminded him of what happened during the typhoon last year—the woman also walked into rain determinedly.

Rufus felt that he couldn't breathe, and anger started to slowly boil inside him. He ran to pick her up harshly and hurried inside without talking to her due to his annoyance.

On his way to the villa, his mind was too busy worrying if Cassandra would be terrified being alone in such a big house. Seeing her standing in the rain only put his back up as he even felt hurt himself when the rain hit on his body.

'I'm sorry... I was just scared that they might be blown away,' she explained shyly.

Cassandra didn't dare speak loudly when Rufus was mad at her. He only had little patience when he was angry, and it wasn't the right time to anger him even more.

Cassandra's shyness immediately softened Rufus's expression and he sighed irritably. She had become his weakness that he couldn't even get mad at her properly.

Rufus fixed his eyes at her frame; all his muscles were tensing when he saw her crouching in the bathtub. He crouched down next to the tub, right beside her head.

He held the shower head and began bathing her, hands carefully brushing over her hair and her face. Cassandra's pale skin had started to flush from the hot water. When their eyes met, he could see himself in her glistening eyes.

She pouted her lips and looked at him innocently.

'I just wanted to keep those plants alive so that I could watch them bloom, with you!' she said.

Don st Call Me That

Cassandra blinked her eyes repeatedly. In this bewildered state, she looked like a beautiful doll.

By looking into her enchanting eyes, Rufus felt his heart soften.

'Well, she is definitely a silly woman. She drenched herself in the rain because she wanted to ensure her flowers were safe!' Rufus thought and laughed at the hilarity of it.

'If you are so fond of flowers, I will ask someone to plant you a whole garden of them. That way you can enjoy them to your heart's content,'

Rufus offered in a compassionate voice. As he waited for her response, he tucked her hair behind her ears. It was dripping with water.

The warm water showered Cassandra and filled the air with clouds of steam.

'No, no flowers. If possible, could you plant two Chinese parasol trees?"

Cassandra's eyes lit up. She looked at Rufus, hoping he would give her an affirmative reply.

'So you want to have Chinese parasol tree? But why? Chinese parasol trees are often surrounded by phoenixes. Are you trying to attract phoenixes?' Phoenix, in ancient mythology, was a kind of bird that preferred to settle down on Chinese parasol trees. And its presence insinuated confession of love.

Its symbolic meaning suddenly dawned on Rufus. He raised his eyebrows at Cassandra suspiciously.

Hearing his absurd suggestion, Cassandra shook her head and grinned.

'No way, I had no idea about that. I asked for them because they look lovely. When summer arrives, it would be amazing to sit under the shade. Anyway, I need just two of them,'

Cassandra replied to Rufus in a convincing tone. She shook his arms, acting like a spoiled child begging for his consent.

Rufus's eyes trailed down and Cassandra noticed a spark in them. Watching his gaze, she blushed a little.

'Hey, what are you looking at!' she screamed.

Rufus burst into laughter.

'You know what I am looking at,' he retorted back.

He came forward and gave her a long kiss. Cassandra tried to catch her breath when Rufus finally let go of her. And Rufus observed her with his tender eyes. He could tell that Cassandra had savored that kiss.

He stood up and handed out a towel to Cassandra before he turned to leave.

'Sweating is good for you. Now you won't fall sick,' he added with a smirk and closed the door shut.

Rufus's words left Cassandra stupefied. It became apparent that he had kissed her to stop her from falling sick.

However, she had thoroughly relished that kiss hence she couldn't help feeling stupid. 'What is wrong with me!' she shrieked internally.

Her face had turned crimson and she buried it into the towel. The warmth in her heart was equivalent to the steam in the bathroom.

Hours passed but the rain showed no sign of ceasing. The television and network were all reporting about the pouring rain.

Almost all streets were flooded. Cassandra was confined in this mansion. She couldn't go anywhere.

'Well, we're literally living in an ocean-view hou

'You're my wife in name only, on paper only. My heart and love will never be yours.'

Edward made it clear to Daisy that she was nothing to him. They were both victims of family greed — the marriage was arranged for them.

Six years passed. She remained quiet, gaining a reputation in the army as a tough-as-nails colonel. When she walked into his life again, Edward fell in love with this woman...

. He was indeed very lucky to have Cassandra with him. However, he didn't know how long their relationship would last.

It was dark outside. Cassandra and Rufus drank some wine together.

'Remember the last time we had steak here? You were the one who cooked. But today, I made it for you. How wonderful this is! What are you waiting for? Please taste it,' Cassandra ordered impatiently.

Internally, she was waiting for his compliment.

Rufus took a bite and it truly lived up to his expectation. She had done a wonderful job and he gave her his compliments generously.

'Wow, it tastes delicious. My wife is indeed a master chef!'

After he paid this compliment, silence filled the air.

Cassandra was surprised to hear herself being referred to as his wife. She felt embarrassed and shook her head immediately.

'Don't call me that...It feels a little strange...'

It wasn't that Cassandra didn't like it. It was just that this word was completely novel to her. In spite of being married, Lionel had never addressed her as his wife.

It was hard to tell where they stood in their relationship now. They weren't married and it sort of felt akward being called this way.

Rufus was surprised too. Maybe it was the atmosphere that prompted him to call her that. Moreover, he and Cassandra had spent a great day together. They slept together, cooked together and now shared a great dinner together, just like a normal married couple. So it came out of his mouth naturally.

Instantly, an idea popped into his mind. Rufus remembered the diamond ring. He realized now was the perfect time for him to propose her.

He kept the ring in his pocket so that he could use it when the perfect opportunity flared up.

Slowly, Rufus dug into his pocket and felt his fingertips touch the box. A smile appeared on his face when he was pulling it out of his pocket.

With a soft smile, he said, 'Cassandra Qin, I might have to start calling you that from now on.'

The Arrival of Charlie

Cassandra shot Rufus an inquisitive glance. 'What is he trying to say?' she wondered in puzzlement.

Rufus stood up and moved a little closer to Cassandra. He was about to get down on one knee.

'Cassandra, I...'

Before he could finish his words, his phone buzzed and interrupted him. With its vibration, he found it hard to focus. Halfheartedly, he reached for the phone and answered.

'Rufus, my father is here in G city. He is showing ardent desire to see you,'

Amanda's voice spoke from the other line.

Rufus glanced at Cassandra and hesitated.

'Go ahead if it's urgent. You have been with me for the whole day. There must be a bunch of work on your desk. I have to call the supervisors for some arrangements after cleaning up anyway.'

Cassandra gave him a little chuckle and then nodded her head considerately.

It had been ages since Rufus last met Charlie. Back in Dark Night Group, Charlie supported him a lot, hence Rufus had nothing but respect for him. Since his honorable teacher was present in G City, he felt obligated to meet him.

'Okay, I'll be right there.'

Hanging up the call, Rufus was still disconcerted about not being able to profess his love. But on the other hand he didn't want to do it hastily so he put if off for some other day.

'I am sorry that I have to leave. But don't worry, I will see you in a couple of days.'

After this, he lowered his head and planted a soft kiss on her cherry lips. Without saying another word, he left the house.

As he opened the door, gust of wind blew in and Cassandra shivered slightly.

The cheerful smile on her face died down. It was replaced with distress.

When he picked the phone, Cassandra got a glimpse of the caller's name. It was Amanda, but she acted like she hadn't seen it and pretened that it was a call from work.

It hurt her a lot but she knew it was the right thing to do. She had no grounds to confront him.

Sitting in solitary, she was overwhelmed with grief. She turned around and looked at the dinner she had made with so much love. The word Rufus uttered before he left broke her heart into pieces.

Rufus said he would come to see her in a few days and she believed him. Their rendezvous were always wonderful and he wouldn't leave without having sex with her.

But now she started to question these meetings. 'Am I just a timepass for him? Am I a piece of toy he comes to enjoy with once in a while?' she wondered.

When he desired her, he would come and spent some time with her. But when he found something better to do, he would be gone for several days. And while he was gone, she would be compelled to live in this isolated place with memories of him. All she had for company was the rattling of windows at night.

'With Amanda's one phone call, he left me. This makes it pretty obvious about who is more important to him. I am definitely not his first priority, 'she told herself.

She presumed that all these

'Who does she think she is? I won't marry her even if she is the last woman on earth,' said Hiram Rong.

'Marry into a family with tens of billions of assets? How lucky I am! I won't be so foolish as to break off the engagement. At worst, I can receive money as part of the divorce settlement,' said Rachel Ruan.

Their great-grandfathers made a pact about their engagement a hundred years ago...

up TY Securities, Charlie asked his friends to grease the wheels, so his business would move smoothly.

As the saying goes, he who teaches me for one day is my father for life. In Rufus's heart, Charlie was just like his father.

Horace, on the other hand, never managed to gain such respect from Rufus. He was not fit to be a father since he always chased money and fame.

Amanda stood beside Charlie. A dull red flush suffused her face the moment she saw Rufus.

She pulled back her long hair in a pony tail, exposing her clear and smooth forehead. In a black knitted dress, she looked like a noble black swan.

Rufus who came in a dark green suit with dark blue stripes looked as handsome as Apollo. No one could tear their eyes from him.

What a perfect match they were.

'Amanda, go downstairs and find out when my meal will be delivered.'

Charlie suddenly turned to his daughter. Amanda was stunned, but she quickly nodded and walked out of the room.

'Father can just call the reception for this. Why did he have to ask me to go personally?' Amanda wondered.

'What's wrong?'

Rufus immediately asked as he detected that something must be wrong. He was certain that Charlie had something to tell him.

Instead of beating around the bush, Charlie explained, Rufus, I came for Amanda this time. You know that she is my only daughter. I love her dearly and hope she can accompany me in my old age. But she told me that she wanted to build a piano school in G City. I don't feel very good about that,

Charlie's voice was low and somewhat sad, he was a father who loved and cared about his daughter after all.

Rufus felt relief wash over him when he realized this was what Charlie wanted to say. In a cheerful tone, he replied, 'You don't have to worry. I will make a clean break with Amanda and won't be involved with her ever again. In fact, I refused to help her when she told me that she wanted to build a piano school in G City.'

You Are My Destiny

Rufus explained to Charlie and promised that he would not date Amanda again. He knew Charlie loved his daughter very much so that he would prefer keeping her around instead of developing her own career in G City. It was too far away from home and him.

'No, I'm not stopping you from seeing her. Instead, I actually want you to help me take care of her,'

Charlie said with a wave of his hand. His words completely surprised Rufus.

Then Charlie sighed and explained when he saw how surprised Rufus was, 'As you know, Rufus, I didn't allow your relationship with Amanda when you were in Dark Night Group. It was not because I disliked you. The only reason was because you were both too young at that time. Besides, I knew why you came to the Dark Night Group. You entered into the group because you hated your father and you wanted to train yourself to be a strong man to take avenge on him. I didn't want my daughter to stay with a man who had so much hatred in his heart.'

There was nothing Charlie could do now about the past. What's done cannot be undone. 'It's no use lamenting about all of that now, 'he thought as he sighed out loud.

When Rufus joined the Dark Night Group, he was far more mature than his peers at the time, even though they were all the same age. It was probably because he never had a childhood. Rufus had to make it on his own and had to grow up way too fast for his liking.

He barely socialized and communicated with others. He concentrated only on intensive training in his mind and body.

Rufus was still a student at that time. Charlie was a sophisticate. He recognized that Rufus was clever, and believed that he would have a promising future. So he took care of him. He even invited Rufus home to treat him. Then unexpectedly and completely unbeknown to him, Rufus and his beloved daughter fell in love.

Charlie remembered back to the day when he asked a question to all the students before they started training.

'Why do you all want to be a part of the Dark Night Group? I would like you all to individually tell me your reasons and elaborate on the importance of this in your life.'

Charlie stood with his feet slightly apart and his hands clasped behind his back. The young faces looked back at him with great respect. Then one after another, they began to report their reasons and goals.

'I want to develop the most powerful physique, muscular arms, strong fists and legs!'

'I want to become focused and evolve into one of the most talented business geniuses!'

'I want to be the wealthiest man in my country!'

Every young man was ambitious. They had the most important quality of excellence, which was their confidence.

When it came to Rufus's turn, he stated in a low voice, 'I want to make someone regret his choice.'

At that moment he showed no emotion at all.

The training field went silent upon his words. Everyone turned their heads and looked at this handsome, well structured young man with curious eyes.

This was a very strange statement and they all wondered what he meant by this. They exchanged looks at one another, having no idea what this young man was talking about.

'And tell me, who would that be?'

Charlie asked. He narrowed his dark piercing eyes and looked intently at this emotionless man.

'My father,' replied Rufus.

He kept his chin high and his face stayed expressionless. He would never stand down out of defeat, towards his father.

All the people were shocked by his words. 'Did he mean to pledge war against his father and bring him down?' they wondered secretly. 'But why?' they were completely confused.

Charlie was also shocked by Rufus's attitude. Being an experienced coach though, he didn't show any surprise or emotion in front of these young men, who were watching intently.

Rufus impressed Charlie the most out of all the new recruits. This was the first day they met.

His goal different from others' and the determination in his eyes left Charlie deep impression.

Rufus became obsessed with practice, working harder than anyone

Drugged one night by her ex-boyfriend, a mysterious man took advantage of her in an ecstatic night filled with sex. To take her revenge, she married the man, and used him. 'As long as I'm alive, I'm still his legal wife, while all of you are just his mistresses.' She remained adamant even when he was involved in scandals with other women...

w can I become a loving, kind man to her when my life revolves around the destruction? Please forgive me.

He paused for a moment and then continued speaking again, 'Amanda deserves better, someone without any hatred in his heart, a person who would love her deeply and defend her, give her babies and help raise them. I'm not the right one for her.

I can't predict who I'm going to be and whether I would stop my revenge plan in the future. But as for now, I'm sure I'll do whatever I can, to continue my plan. I don't want Amanda to be a part of something so destructive. I only want what's best for her.'

Rufus took a deep bow, showing Charlie his respect for him as a master trainer. He didn't want to lie to him or let him down. He felt too much for him. Charlie was a good man. But Rufus must decline his request of taking care of Amanda.

Charlie couldn't understand why he could't let it go. He even offeredhis most beautiful and precious possession. He had never expected that Rufus would reject.

When Amanda told him she would establish a piano school in G City, Charlie strongly opposed. Amanda assured him over and over that Rufus would take good care of her, so he decided to pay a visit to G City to confirm Rufus's attitude.

At first, he was quite pleased when he learned about what Rufus had done in G City. He set up the TY Group and meanwhile managed the Tang Group well. Thus, Charlie reasoned that Rufus already stopped hating his father and believed that Amanda would be happy to be with this man who had love in his heart.

He thought Rufus and Amanda had already reached an agreement and he was just relaying his blessing. But this was definitely not the case as Rufus stated today. It seemed that it was Amanda's wishful thinking.

Charlie remembered that Amanda told him on the phone that she would go to G City where Rufus was. She said that she would never break up with Rufus again. That was why Charlie thought his daughter and Rufus had been dating all this time, and that was why he paid him a visit. However, what Rufus told him now puzzled him.

So Charlie frowned at him and asked, 'I thought you and Amanda are dating, aren't you?'

At this time, the door opened suddenly and Amanda walked in with a determined expression on her pretty face.

'Father, Rufus is the only man I love. I want to be with him!'

Then she walked straight to Rufus. She raised her eyes to look at the man she loved so much yet felt heartbroken for, and said with an affectionate voice, 'Rufus, you are my destiny. We can be dynamic together. I will help you get over your pain. We will replace it with wonderful memories and more love than you could imagine. What do you say?'

A Farewell Dinner For Dylon

Walking her way to the hotel restaurant, Amanda instructed the manager to deliver Charlie's meals as soon as possible and then made her way back to the presidential suite. Right when she came to the door, she overheard her father's words as he talked to Rufus. 'Didn't you and Amanda get together?'

With that, she pushed the door open without any hesitation. Amanda announced to her father with a firm voice that she had decided to be with Rufus.

Amanda's sudden proclamation surprised Rufus. Actually, he knew that Amanda still liked him after what had happened between them. But being a gentleman as he was, he was not willing to reject her straight away right in front of her father, and he knew it would break her heart.

Rufus himself had also been hurt by love once and got lost without knowing what to do after Amanda broke up with him. Still, he cherished the good memories of the past with Amanda. She was so beautiful and innocent when they were together and he wanted it to stay that way on his mind; thus he didn't want to hurt her now.

In fact, Rufus had already figured out her intentions when she suddenly changed the repertoire after the break at her concert.

Later, she announced that she would like to set up a piano school in G City. She even drafted a contract and asked Rufus to sign it. Thus, it led Rufus to conclude that the purpose of her visit to G City must have something to do with him.

Time had passed and people changed. Rufus didn't love Amanda anymore. Instead, his heart beat only for Cassandra.

Although Cassandra was not as famous and successful as Amanda, and her family was not as glorious as Amanda's, Rufus was deeply in love with Cassandra since the day he met her. She was so special and different from everyone else.

The reason why he liked Amanda before was just that she was truly a beautiful girl when they were both young. But his feelings for Cassandra was totally different. As a man, he just wanted her and be with her for the rest of his life.

If he were to choose between Cassandra and Amanda, he sure would settle with Cassandra, the one he loved and cherished the most.

'Amanda, have I ever told you that I already have a girlfriend?'

Rufus looked at Amanda and tried to state in a low voice because he was afraid of how she would react. However, it seemed that Amanda didn't care about Rufus's rejection at all.

'Girlfriend? Why does that matter? She doesn't deserve you at all!'

Amanda exclaimed with a confident expression. Obviously, she didn't think Cassandra was even at par to compete with her.

'She had a divorced and her father is now in prison. What's worse was that her company was at stake. She's nothing to me!

I am the youngest female pianist who had won numerous awards in the world so far. There are a lot of men who sought after me and I can just choose one to be my boyfriend. However, I only love Rufus and I believe that he is bound to be my man sooner or later. I will surely beat Cassandra!' Amanda thought while eyeing Rufus interestingly.

'Amanda, love is never about matching. It's about whether you can afford it or not. Its sharing one's soul to another,' Rufus countered.

For Rufus, Amanda was still the proud little girl she was years ago. It seemed that she had not changed a bit, still simple yet capricious.

Rufus, on the other hand, had grown up and was now very mature. His childishness faded gradually and it was

'Let's go and register our marriage on your birthday!'

Marrying Daniel should have been her best birthday gift, but everything was ruined the moment when she caught him sleeping with another woman on the day before her birthday.

'He's going to marry that woman! She... was my best friend!'

my place to be Rufus' woman?

What a pity! You haven't recovered from your last failed marriage. I'm afraid that you're about to enter the darkest time in your life.' Amanda thought in silence.

After Rufus left, Cassandra sat in the dining room and was lost into her own thought for a long time.

'It was already late and Rufus won't be home tonight. Is he with Amanda now? Would he be holding Amanda and telling her all the sweet things he'd ever told me before?' Cassandra pondered to herself.

She suddenly shook her head as she thought of the odd questions on her mind. She tried desperately to banish all these strange ideas out from her head.

'I must trust Rufus. He met Amanda because he had something urgent to deal with her. The truth is certainly not like what I thought, and I shouldn't make wild assumptions since I don't have any evidence to prove that Amanda has any intimate relationship with Rufus.' Cassandra thought further.

But no matter how hard she tried to comfort herself, such self-suggestions did not seem to work for her. Cassandra slowly became more and more depressed.

She got up to finish cleaning around the house. Then she lay down on the bed in a daze, picked up her mobile phone and began to surf the Internet.

The hitting headlines were all about the earthquake that happened in A City. It seemed that no one cared about Lyndsy's news anymore. This was nice to know and Cassandra finally felt relieved for her. At least now the media would not pay too much attention to the news about the entertainment industry. Furthermore, Lyndsy could try to terminate her

contract with the company, so as to avoid any other unexpected accidents from happening.

Pictures of the earthquake were constantly being uploaded to the Internet. The tragic scene of the disaster-stricken area was in such a mess that it made everyone seeing the pictures feel really heartbroken.

As Cassandra continued to browse, she learned that the death toll from the earthquake continued to rise; and there was a severe shortage of relief supplies.

Then all of a sudden, Dylon's came in on her phone. 'Cassandra, the hospital has sent a medical team to the disaster-stricken area and I'm going with them tomorrow morning. Would you like to hold a farewell dinner for me?'

Throw Yourself In Another Man s Arms

Cassandra didn't respond. She was a bit hesitant as she held the phone by her ear. As soon as she recalled Dylon claiming that she was his girlfriend in front of the media, Cassandra couldn't help but feel iffy. She didn't know how to face him anymore.

'Cassandra, are you mad at me?'

Dylon asked in a careful tone. He was a smart man and he could sense Cassandra's hesitance. When Cassandra didn't respond to him, he started to worry that she might be mad at him for what he did the other day.

'Uh, no. Uh, I'm just in the middle of something...'

Cassandra didn't want to hurt Dylon's feelings. She just made up an excuse so she wouldn't have to talk to him any further.

After a few more inconsequential exchanges, Cassandra hung up the call. Her head was in such a chaotic mess right now that she didn't know what to do. Dylon was a very good friend of hers and she didn't want to hurt him at all but she really didn't know how to remain friends after what happened the other day.

It was ridiculous that Dylon would claim they were together when they clearly weren't. Meanwhile, Rufus, who was actually in a relationship with her, had lied to her about receiving a call from another woman.

That was pretty ironic.

Just as Cassandra was getting lost in her own thoughts, Lyndsy's call came in and she was straightforward as usual.

'Cassandra, Dylon told me that he thought you might be angry with him. I'm very sorry, it's all my fault. He did that for me because I needed help. How about as an apology, I treat you two to dinner tonight? It can also be Dylon's farewell dinner. Don't worry, there won't be any journalists tonight so they can't interrupt us. We can go to a private club where only VIPs can get in, okay? How does that sound?'

Lyndsy had never been one to beat around the bush especially with people who were close to her—she always went straight to the point. Since she considered Cassandra and Dylon to be her friends, she wanted to make sure everything was okay between the two. Cassandra didn't know what to feel.

She knew Lyndsy didn't want to cause any trouble and just wanted to have dinner with them. And in fact, Dylon didn't exactly do anything

wrong. It was just that Cassandra had felt weird around him after what he had said the other day and it had nothing to do with Lyndsy.

'Fine, give me the address and I'll be there,' Cassandra agreed with a silent sigh.

Meanwhile, Jasper and Rufus were sitting face-to-face inside a box in the high-end private club.

In front of them, a man was performing a tea ceremony on the table. The faint and fresh scent of the tea filled the whole room.

After finishing the tea ceremony, the man silently nodded to them and left the room, leaving Jasper and Rufus alone so they could discuss important things.

'The Dawn Star Group is getting better and better everyday. But I don't think that they are willing to be bought. Arthur just wouldn't agree. He's pretty competitive,'

Jasper said as he picked up his cup of tea to take a sip. The tea not only smelled great but it also tasted amazing.

'I have never considered buying the Dawn Star Group,'

Rufus answered, holding his cup in one hand and slowly spinning it as the tea inside made small waves. Something flashed in his eyes but it was too quick that Jasper didn't have enough time to figure out what it meant. Rufus's face was unreadable.

'What? You don't plan to buy the Dawn Star Group? Then why did you ask me to invest a huge amount of money in them?'

Jasper was startled so much that he almost dropped his

'You're my wife in name only, on paper only. My heart and love will never be yours.'

Edward made it clear to Daisy that she was nothing to him. They were both victims of family greed -- the marriage was arranged for them.

Six years passed. She remained quiet, gaining a reputation in the army as a tough-as-nails colonel. When she walked into his life again, Edward fell in love with this woman...

ppening—she remained frozen in Dylon's arms for a good few moments.

Right on cue, Rufus walked out with Jasper trailing behind him. As soon as he stepped out, he saw Cassandra in Dylon's arms.

At this moment, Cassandra and Dylon really did look like they were hugging each other, very intimately.

Dylon lowered his gaze to look at Cassandra. He had a soft look in his eyes while Cassandra looked up to him helplessly.

'Cassandra, be careful,'

Dylon warned Cassandra who was still a bit shaken from nearly falling. He had a light and soft smile on his lips which calmed Cassandra. They untangled themselves right away. Cassandra's face was a bit red as she was a bit embarrassed.

'Thank you,'

Cassandra said in a grateful tone. If it weren't for Dylon, she would surely have hurt herself because of her carelessness. But when she turned her head to look ahead, her eyes were met with a pair of eyes that she was extremely familiar with.

She had seen these eyes countless times by now. But never in a million years were they this cold and angry.

It seemed that there was a storm silently raging in those eyes. Cassandra could tell how angry, sad, and most importantly, disappointed he was with her.

'Well, what a nice coincidence,'

Jasper mumbled. He too saw the whole scene between Dylon and Cassandra and how they seemed so intimate. He could tell how angry Rufus was right now.

Last time, they saw Cassandra leave Dylon's apartment and now, here they were again, hugging. This would be too much of a coincidence now.

This was getting serious. Rufus must be furious. And Jasper was worried that Rufus might do something that he would regret later.

Cassandra suddenly felt numb as she could tell that Rufus must have misunderstood the situation based on the look on his face.

'Oh! Mr. Luo, fancy seeing you here! What a coincidence!'

Lyndsy, who saw Rufus, walked up and greeted him with a smile on her face.

But Rufus didn't say anything back to Lyndsy. He just ignored her and walked straightly past her to stand in front of Cassandra. He lowered his head and stared at her with angry eyes. His jaw tightened. Rufus was tense, as if he was trying to contain his emotions.

'Are you really that desperate to throw yourself into another man's arms the second I leave?'

Rufus's tone was icy cold and it pierced through Cassandra's heart.