

## Extraordinary 931

### [Chapter 931 So Effortless](#)

One comment wrote: That's right. A brand should develop its market comprehensively. They should also occasionally make dresses for people with more voluptuous figures too.

Another netizen commented: You know what? I suddenly learned to appreciate Cindy's beauty.

A third netizen wrote: I'm a flat-chested girl, and I envy Cindy.

Consequently, the trending list not only included topics related to Cindy being the lead actress of True Magnate but also about Alethea acknowledging her.

One of the trending searches was especially comical: Alethea should cater to women with bigger busts!

Clicking on the link would redirect one to the post Ashlyn had helped Caylie publish on Twitter.

Many netizens were actively discussing, commenting, and sharing the post, creating a new sensation.

This post not only promoted the clothing brand and the movie but also boosted Cindy's popularity to greater heights, so we can consider this a win-win outcome, right? Caylie thought it was a little surreal. "That's it? So effortless? The PR Department just saved a large amount of money."

"That's right. That's it." Ashlyn flashed an elegant smile.

Now that she had acknowledged Cindy as the lead actress, that signified she had most likely allowed Cindy to become the first person to wear that gown internationally.

Moreover, the brand also approved of Cindy, suggesting that they didn't mind letting Cindy wear the outfit.

As a result, those who thought Cindy had tarnished the brand could now stop pressing that matter further.

Ashlyn had indirectly saved the brand's reputation, turning the self-deprecating comment on Twitter that had placed Alethea in a precarious state into a humorous response.

They managed to recover from a seemingly impossible situation.

"You're so great, Ashlyn!" Naomi, who had been observing the turns of events behind, couldn't help but clap her hands. Admiration toward Ashlyn filled her eyes.

She wore a pink strapless dress that day, accentuating her fair skin tone and giving her a captivating appearance and graceful vibe.

Jonathan stood beside her, clad in a silver-grey suit. The beautiful couple stood out even among the crowd around them.

After listening to Ashlyn mention the new movie, Jonathan uttered nervously, "Ashlyn, c-could you arrange a role for me? I'm looking for a mentor to polish my acting skills recently."

The scene of a top idol humbly seeking a role left many people present in shock.

Jonathan was the male lead in the previous movie, Trashy Idol, yet he has to be so deferential to participate in Ashlyn's film.

The jealousy churning in everyone's gazes intensified as they looked at Cindy. She's so lucky to be handpicked by Ashlyn as one of the two female leads. Instead of getting blacklisted after offending Alethea, she managed to get her fame to rise to an unprecedented level. This is so infuriating!

On the other hand, some pondered on a different issue. All of Cindy's success is made possible by Ashlyn. Does that mean Ashlyn is now a top-tier producer? How impressive!

"Jonathan, bear this in mind. You're always my go-to male lead." With that, Ashlyn wrapped her arms around Lucas' and beamed at him. "Let's go inside, Honey."

Go-to male lead... Excitement washed over Jonathan, causing him to feel a little light-headed. Does that mean I'm the male lead of True Magnate?

He grasped Naomi's hands in ecstasy. "This is so great, Naomi!"

However, Naomi was slightly disappointed. Ashlyn offered the roles to Cindy and Jonathan but not me. How sad. It seems like I haven't worked hard enough. I must get into the film academy and let Ashlyn see my effort!

Ashlyn and Lucas strode inward, hand in hand. She leaned against his tall figure, looking nothing like the strong woman she had just been, appearing especially gentle and docile.

Those who were curious about the married couple couldn't help but muse, So, this is how Mr. and Mrs. Nolan interacts...

The crowd entered the elevator to reach the floor where the auction was being held.

Heavyweights from various industries had gathered there, and everyone chatted with one another amidst the harmonious atmosphere.

Hera also attended the event, not to mention by invitation. Although she didn't win the championship in the piano competition previously, that platform had allowed her to garner some fame, allowing her to

establish a foothold in the piano circle in Lake City.

Besides, everyone had to show her some degree of respect because of her grandfather's status.

### [Chapter 932 Auction](#)

Hera was the host of the auction. So what if Charlotte wins the championship? She still doesn't have any connection.

Under normal circumstances, the host of a large-scale auction like that, organized by the higher-ups, no less, must be someone with considerable experience and a certain level of fame. The host should also be equipped with the eloquence to hold the audience and create a lively ambiance.

Most importantly, they must be able to persuade the guests to contribute to the fundraising.

That was the key.

Hera felt she would have a bright future ahead if she could impress the higher-ups with her performance. She had put in a lot of effort and made some sacrifices to secure the opportunity to host that event.

After landing the job, she gained a lot of attention. Before the auction officially started, she dressed up glamorously and rubbed shoulders with the big shots. Hera played the role of a social butterfly by relying on her gorgeous appearance and sweet voice.

Right then, there was a small and sudden commotion at the entrance.

She casually glanced in that direction and saw the crowd parting as a handsome man and a beautiful woman walked in.

That man was tall and hunky, while the woman was regal and elegant.

Behind her were another two couples. All of them dressed up extravagantly and were eye-catching.

When Hera noticed the familiar face, she gritted her teeth. Ashlyn! That despicable woman is also here. She even preened herself to look so attractive.

Ashlyn and Lucas rarely appeared as a couple in public.

That seemed to be their first public appearance together since they announced their relationship as husband and wife.

They immediately attracted everyone's attention as soon as they showed up, stealing even the limelight of the top idol, Jonathan.

Their presence instantaneously lifted the liveliness of the entire venue.

The higher-ups were honored to have Ashlyn and Lucas attending the event together, and perhaps only they had the influence to convince the couple to show up.

Participating in such activities that could express their support to the higher-ups and also be involved in a charity auction for disaster relief was a must.

Otherwise, the higher-ups could blacklist anyone who wasn't supportive at any moment.

Almost everyone in the entertainment industry came, including all the prominent figures in Lake City.

Even those with slight significant stature in society were all there.

They couldn't miss that event as that was the perfect opportunity for them to impress the higher-ups.

Many people were aware of the gown incident that happened earlier in the first-floor lobby, but some who arrived early didn't know about it.

After Lucas greeted a few of Nolan Group's business partners, he went to sit around the seats provided by the organizers with Ashlyn.

Winsor and Tinsor sat in the row behind them. Blair and Tinsor sat next to each other. After the previous incident, the two had become inseparable friends who had been through hardships together.

Noticing Ashlyn, Blair grinned and waved at her, completely disregarding his brother. "Ashlyn, Ashlyn, I'm here."

Ever since the last time Tinsor had caused Ashlyn to be caught in a dangerous situation, he had been ridden with guilt. The once zestful young man now appeared somewhat shy. "Ashlyn, are you feeling better now?"

He had been punished by Patrick to kneel for three days and nights until his knees swelled. It took him a week of recuperation to barely be able to get out of bed and walk.

He had planned to apologize to Ashlyn in person, but she had gone abroad again.

Meeting with Ashlyn at that moment prompted anxiety and guilt to surge within his chest.

Tinsor even spoke in an exceptionally low voice as he was afraid to face the disdainful look in Ashlyn's eyes when she saw him.

He feared his female idol would never pay attention to him again.

"I'm fine. Spend more time practicing self-defense skills with Blair whenever you're free, so you won't always be so weak. The Jaquin family's methods are really not as good as the plan I set up."

Ashlyn curled her lips into a smile, gazing at the two young men with a hint of warmth in her eyes.

"Mr. Nolan."

Tinsor looked up in excitement, but before he could express his joy and relief that Ashlyn didn't hold him accountable or stay mad at him, he heard a delicate voice calling out to Lucas.

### [Chapter 933 Aunt Ashlyn](#)

Everyone turned toward the source of the voice. Hera walked in, wearing a long dress that cinched on her waist which accentuated her curvy figure and captivated everyone's gazes.

With an elegant smile, Hera walked over to Lucas.

Ashlyn glanced at Hera coldly. She couldn't help but be amazed by how shameless and thick-faced Hera was.

Lucas never gives her any reaction that she desires, but why is she still so brazen in approaching him actively when she sees him? I'm shocked by her perseverance!

"Hello, Mrs. Nolan." Hera initiated a conversation with Ashlyn smilingly as though there had never been a conflict between them.

Ashlyn merely glanced at her, ignoring her words.

Lucas also remained silent. He stood with his legs crossed, looking elegant and domineering.

Embarrassment slowly crept onto Hera's face, for the couple had openly ignored her before the public eyes.

"Mrs. Nolan, Mr. Nolan, I'm the host for today. Please show me some respect, okay?" Hera said coyly yet aggrievedly as though Lucas and Ashlyn had bullied her.

Lucas lifted his head slightly. "Do you deserve to be respected, Ms. Chapman? I've lost all regard for you when you pretended to be Ashlyn." Disgust filled Lucas when he thought of how Hera had faked her identity as his childhood friend. He looked at his surrounding thoughtfully. "Many men are willing to respect you here."

Hera's expression stiffened instantly. She had never expected Lucas to shame her so publicly. He looks at me as though I'm a stranger. If that's the case, isn't it a waste of my time to try to become the host here? I want Lucas to know how talented I am too!

Hera forced a smile. She wanted to speak again when Charlotte's voice rang out from behind. "Ashlyn, Mr. Nolan!"

Hera was infuriated. Charlotte is destined to be my nemesis! Why does she have to show up now?

Joseph's voice could be heard next. "Lucas, Aunt Ashlyn!"

A pin-drop, eerie silence ensued after he greeted Ashlyn.

Lucas exuded an aura that made him seem unapproachable, for he and Joseph were best friends from the same generation.

Joseph's aunt... Aunt Ashlyn...

Chills ran down Joseph's back, and he felt the urge to escape with Charlotte immediately.

However, Charlotte was wearing high heels that day. She twisted her feet and said, "My feet hurt. Let's sit with them."

Joseph gave a hideous smile. "All right..."

When they sat down, Ashlyn smiled faintly and said, "Joe, let me introduce you to my husband, Lucas Nolan."

Joseph and the rest present were rendered speechless by her words.

Lucas looked at Ashlyn approvingly.

Still, my wife loves me, and it feels excellent that my status has been elevated since I'm her husband.

Joseph had to admit that he had referred to Ashlyn as his aunt because he wanted to make things difficult for Lucas. It had never occurred to Joseph that Ashlyn would, in turn, introduce Lucas as her husband, making it hard for him to retaliate.

Does Aunt Ashlyn want me to acknowledge Lucas, my childhood friend, as her husband? She might as well end me now!

"Well, uh, I need to use the restroom. See you!" With that, Joseph glanced at Charlotte and left.

Lucas smiled, looking at Ashlyn passionately. "Honey, you're the best!"

It warms my heart to see her protect and defend me this way. She's so beautiful and dazzling today!

He fixed his gaze on Ashlyn, seemingly wanting to get intimate with her there and then.

### [Chapter 934 Richard And Shiela](#)

Ashlyn was wearing a white dress that accentuated her figure. On her ears were a pair of elegant earrings with long tassels adorned with countless crushed diamonds that complemented her alluring visual.

She lifted her eyes, meeting Lucas' passionate gaze, and patted him on the back of his hand. "Patience."

Just then, there was a commotion at the entrance.

Cassandra yawned, looking in that direction casually. She saw a tall man walking toward them with a woman holding his arm.

Cassandra's heart raced when she realized who the man and the woman were. She had never expected to see Richard Shaw and Shiela Jensen there.

Richard's charming features made it hard for others to stare him in the eyes as he stood in the crowd with a domineering aura indicative of his top status. His every move exuded elegance.

Standing beside him was the gorgeous and graceful Shiela. They looked compatible as they linked arms with each other.

Cassandra's heart clenched in pain. She knew she was no longer related to the Jensen family or Richard anymore. Everything had long since ended.

She lowered her eyes instantly. By the time she lifted her head, she had perfectly concealed her emotions.

But even so, Spencer observed that her mood had changed. He couldn't help but wonder what was wrong.

In the middle of his conversation with Shiela, Richard looked up casually to see Ashlyn sitting beside Lucas. His heart throbbed with pain.

He noticed Cassandra standing behind Ashlyn looking all lovely and innocent. However, Richard also realized her gaze no longer followed his every move.

He walked toward the two women.

With a frown, Shiela hurried after him.

"Ashlyn." Richard's husky voice sounded from above Ashlyn. She raised her head, meeting Richard's eyes.

A grin appeared on Ashlyn's face as she stood up. "Richard, you're here too?"

Even though Ashlyn sounded affectionate as she spoke, Richard was instantly snapped back to reality.

He suppressed the pain in his heart and reached out to caress Ashlyn's head dotingly without messing up her hair.

Then, he turned to Cassandra as though he had just spotted her. "Cass, why didn't you say hi to me?"

It had been a few months since they had last seen each other. Although Richard acted as if they were still siblings, Cassandra didn't want to look at him at all.

She didn't feel any sadness, only a hint of helplessness.

Forget it! Richard is not someone I can pursue. His fiancée is Shiela Jensen, and they are about to hold their engagement party soon. Who am I to say anything? I was adopted by the Jensen family. I'm a fake socialite! What right do I have to have a crush on Richard? If Shiela is an angel from heaven, then I'm a pile of mud on the ground.

Cassandra finally felt free at the moment, her expression betraying her emotions. However, she didn't notice that Richard's expression had changed drastically.

She greeted, "Richard, Shiela, it's been a while!"

"Cassandra, Mom and Dad miss you! Why haven't you been home lately?" Shiela smiled gracefully, giving Cassandra a once-over. "You're still into this style, huh? It makes you look like a child. How could you wear these clothes to this event? If you don't have any other outfits, I can buy them for you. Don't wear these anymore."

Cassandra stared at Shiela's beautifully made-up face expressionlessly. "Thank you for your concern, Shiela. I don't like expensive clothes; I'm into these cheap clothes instead. It's too bad, isn't it? After all, I'm a wild child!"

Richard furrowed his brows, looking at Cassandra unhappily. "Don't be rude, Cassandra. Shiela is just being kind."

Cassandra kept her thoughts to herself. Same old Richard! He always thinks Shiela is the best and the kindest woman in the world!

### [Chapter 935 You Are Not A Kid](#)

Sadness filled Cassandra then.

"Richie... my stomach hurts." Shiela suddenly clenched her stomach with one hand as a weakness overtook her while Richard stared at Cassandra.



"Shiela, are you feeling unwell? Come on. Take a seat." Richard retracted his gaze from Cassandra and focused all his attention on Shiela.

Shiela replied coyly, "Maybe... it's our baby kicking me."

Her voice was neither loud nor soft, but it was enough for the rest of the crowd to hear her words.

Even though Cassandra didn't want to pay attention to Richard or Shiela, Shiela's announcement traveled into her ears rapidly.

She lifted her head, looking at Richard and Shiela with unnoticeable jealousy.

Shiela leaned against Richard's embrace casually. When she met Cassandra's eyes, her weak and coy expression was replaced with a provocative and triumphant look.

Richard had his arms wrapped around Shiela so she could sit more comfortably. He didn't notice the hostile exchange between Shiela and Cassandra.

Cassandra suppressed the urge to throw things at the couple, who were hugging each other tightly, before turning away from them.

I'm not the child who follows behind Richard and Shiela anymore. I will never do things that will ruin my reputation in public. Not now, not ever. I'm the chief financial officer of Imperial Hotel, working alongside Boss now.

Cassandra was aware of the close relationship between Richard and Ashlyn. It was not worth it for her to offend Richard over a pretentious woman like Shiela.

However, before Cassandra could respond appropriately, Ashlyn, not far away from her, glared at Shiela and sneered. "What a hypocritical, disgusting, and pretentious woman."

Shiela had her pride, for she was the daughter of a wealthy family. She could not keep her emotions in check as she snapped at Ashlyn. "Who are you calling a disgusting woman?"

Ashlyn ignored her. Shiela pushed Richard away as she charged toward Cassandra, wanting to slap her.

"What are you trying to do? Boss can scold anyone she likes, and who are you to hit me?" Cassandra grabbed Shiela's wrist before swinging her hand away, causing Shiela to stumble backward.

The commotion at their side attracted many's attention in an instant. They stared at Shiela's indecent appearance in shock.

"I heard that Shiela has always relied on Cassandra's blood to stay alive because of her weak body."

“Damn it! I heard that Cassandra was adopted from the orphanage to become a blood bank for Shiela.”

“Poor Cassandra!”

“But Cassandra is a talented woman. Didn't you see the trending news about her? She is known for her monstrous strength despite her looks. Not only that, she is a champion in martial art and archery! It doesn't matter that they used her as a blood bank!”

“Am I the only one who cares about Shiela's pregnancy?”

“Is she carrying Mr. Shaw's child?”

Shiela's face paled as anger filled her while she listened to the discussion. She had the massive urge to slap Cassandra.

Frustration built up in Richard when he saw Cassandra pushing Shiela away forcefully. His anger was further intensified when he spotted the constant disdain on Cassandra's face. He also found Cassandra and Shiela annoying and weren't as easygoing as Ashlyn. He was embarrassed when he thought about how Ashlyn had scolded Shiela.

However, the Jensen family still had value to Richard. He had to pretend to be unbothered by their actions.

He grabbed Shiela's waist, steadying her before saying to Cassandra, “She's pregnant. Can't you be more gentle toward her? You're not a kid anymore, Cassandra!”

### [Chapter 936 Jealousy](#)

Cassandra became green with envy when she saw how intimate Richard and Shiela were. Yet, her character didn't allow her to back down even during these circumstances.

She stared at Shiela coldly. “Shiela, you better protect your baby since you're pregnant. Don't think you have a guarantee to stay safe because you're carrying a baby. Besides, I'm not the one who got you pregnant. Why are you unleashing your fury on me? I can't say for sure that I won't accidentally hurt the bastard in you or cause you to have a miscarriage the next time you provoke me again!”

Shiela looked at Cassandra pitifully. Her eyes welled up with tears when she turned to Richard. She said in an annoying high-pitched voice, “Richie, my stomach hurts... She's too much. How could she say that our kid is a bastard?”

Mockery flashed across Richard's eyes.

She's right. Your baby is an illegitimate bastard. What makes you think you're worthy enough to carry my kid, Shiela?

Even so, Richard feigned his concern for her. He placed his hand over Shiela's stomach slowly. "Let me give you a massage."

Ashlyn was appalled by the scene before her. She wondered when Richard's taste in women became so bad that he was interested in a woman like Shiela.

Richard is like a brother and father to me because of the concern and care he showed me, and I respect him very much. But then, I also feel distant from him. Why so? I don't know, either.

Ashlyn despised the way Richard looked at her sometimes. His gaze was passionate and intense as if he wanted to consume her alive.

However, when she looked at him, his gaze would become gentle, making her suspect that her mind was playing tricks on her.

Now that he was with Shiela, Ashlyn was relieved.

It's evident that Cassandra is into Richard. However, she can't handle a man like Richard! Just because Shiela is with him now does not mean she will be with him forever.

Richard was not as elegant, charming, or gentlemanly as he appeared on the surface. He was, in fact, a cold-blooded man, and Ashlyn didn't wish to see Cassandra getting hurt.

A sense of crisis rose within Lucas when he saw Richard. He couldn't help but squeeze Ashlyn's hand tightly. Richard has finally shown up, and he seems dangerous and heartless.

Coming face-to-face with the intimacy that Richard and Shiela exhibited, Cassandra felt pain prickling all over her heart and her body.

I thought I'd never be in pain again having been hurt for so long. But what I see before me now still hurts me greatly. What's more, this man I've loved for so long always looks at me with disdain and dissatisfaction.

Cassandra was in so much pain that she nearly lost all sense of feeling.

Without sparing Richard another glance, Cassandra left. The duo watched as her rigidly straight back disappeared from their sight.

Even though Richard had his hand on Shiela's stomach, he couldn't help but furrow his brows at Cassandra's retreating figure.

She is getting more and more out of control.

Meanwhile, Spencer was a spectator of the show that had just died down. He gulped and guessed that Cassandra was attracted to the scary Richard.

Is Cassandra being serious? Why is she into a ruthless man like Richard? Won't she feel pressured being around him? No! This won't do. I have to advise her. I need to get her to sober up and let her know it's not okay to fall in love with men like Richard!

He leaned in and whispered to Cassandra, "Cassandra, you should know that Richard is not a good man! Don't let yourself be fooled by his attractive face."

Cassandra was baffled by his words.

What the heck? Is he trying to nag me again?

As she had expected, Spencer continued, "He changes girlfriend constantly like how he changes his clothes, and he has multiple friends with benefits... Who knows whether he has any hidden illnesses!"

#### [Chapter 937 Pretentious Woman](#)

Cassandra stared at Spencer incredulously.

She realized she was disgusted by Spencer's words.

However, she had to clarify something. "I grew up with him since we were young. We were neighbors. I know how many women he has slept with. His image as an honest man is all just a rumor."

Upon hearing that, Spencer was extremely appalled.

Ashlyn swept her gaze across Richard and Shiela lazily, then glanced at Cassandra and Spencer. "Why does everyone get attracted to the Jensen family?"

I feel that the relationship between Shiela and Richard isn't so simple...

The area of the venue of the auction was large, and it covered an entire floor of the hotel. A dazzling chandelier hung above, and the floor was topped with a bright and soft red carpet.

The tables and seats were well-arranged, and the lighting on the auction stage shone the brightest, accentuating the banner which was stretched and hung across the red curtain behind the stage.

The verse on the banner was beyond astonishing. It read: Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

Everyone gathered and spoke softly, creating a harmonious atmosphere at the scene.

However, the same could not be said for Ashlyn's surroundings.

Richard and Shiela were behaving so intimately that it was simply hard to watch.

Ashlyn had a feeling that Richard wasn't someone who would express all his thoughts and feelings to a woman.

After all, she knew best how aloof he was.

Noticing how Ashlyn was focusing all her attention on Richard, Lucas narrowed his eyes and grabbed her hand. "Am I not handsome?"

Ashlyn was speechless when she heard that.

Here comes this man's childish side—Childish Lucas—again. Can't I even look at my sworn brother?

She smiled helplessly. "You are. You're the most handsome man on earth."

Upon hearing Ashlyn's statement, Richard paused from feeding Shiela the milk, and his face fell immediately.

But almost instantaneously, his expression became gentle again. "Drink slowly. No one is fighting over it with you."

Shiela leaned against Richard's chest and said, "You're so good to me, Richie."

Disgusting! This is too freaking difficult to watch!

Cassandra was so disgusted that she was about to gouge out her eyeballs.

What's going on? Shiela is so pretentious! Is Richard blind? Can't he tell what she's doing at all? She's such a pretentious woman... Oh, forget it.

Cassandra chose to ignore them.

Inhaling deeply, she decided to head to the restroom and get some fresh air.

She was afraid she would throw up her dinner from last night if she continued to stay there.

After walking through a long hallway, she turned around and entered the restroom. She took out a cigarette, wanting to calm herself down by smoking.

All of a sudden, a slender and strong hand appeared from behind Cassandra, snatching away the lit cigarette that she had just held closer to her mouth.

Puzzled, Cassandra lifted her head and was thoroughly dumbfounded the next second.

Nevertheless, she put on an indifferent expression, her smile polite yet distant as she asked, "Richard, why did you snatch my cigarette?"

Richard merely approached her with a domineering aura. "Why are you acting so cold and distant toward me?"

He felt strange that the young lady who used to cling to him had stopped doing so all at once.

Cassandra took a few small steps backward, feeling tired of forcing a smile. Her back suddenly felt frigid, and she realized she had withdrawn against a wall.

As soon as she felt the chilly sensation on her back, she regained her senses. Why should I be afraid of him? Why? I never did anything wrong.

As she tilted her head, her pigtails swayed. "I'm not acting distant. You're a man who has a fiancée now. It's inappropriate for me to follow you around like when we were younger. I have to keep my distance from you! Otherwise, my parents and Shiela would kill me!"

Richard curled his lips into a smirk. He reached out his hand and propped it against the wall behind Cassandra, then leaned over slightly to stare at her without saying a word.

Instantaneously, Cassandra held her breath. Yet, she didn't want to appear weak.

### [Chapter 938 Using You](#)

Cassandra forced herself to remain calm as she looked straight into the man's eyes. She didn't want to lose even if her aura wasn't as imposing as his.

With just a glance, Richard could make others feel tremendously pressured. Cassandra quietly froze in place.

It took a while before she tilted her head to the side and answered in a cold tone, "Richard Shaw, I admit I've liked you when I was young and frivolous. But you didn't like me... So, I will never have feelings for you again. Why did you abandon your fiancée and come here?"

Richard stared at Cassandra's tiny mouth. All he desired to do was to kiss her fervently.

For a moment, he detested hearing her vocalize those vexing remarks concerning their rift.

Richard leaned over abruptly, inching closer to Cassandra's red lips.

At that precise moment, a huge hand reached out from behind and yanked him away.

Caught off guard, Richard staggered a few steps backward after being shoved away. When he finally steadied himself, he noticed a man shielding Cassandra and obstructing his view.

"If it isn't the son of the White family. Is it tiring to be Lucas Nolan's lackey?" A smirk appeared on Richard's face as he glared at Spencer grimly.

In that instant, a hint of anger clouded over Spencer's usual gentle expression. "Mr. Shaw, don't you think it's inappropriate to take advantage of other ladies when you already have a fiancée?"

"Who do you think you are? What right do you have to lecture me like this, Spencer?" Richard then looked at Cassandra coldly. "Come here!"

The young lady stood behind Spencer stubbornly, bold indifference overflowing in her eyes. "Richard, Boss and I both respect you. I will respect you when you finally decide to respect me, even if it's just a little compared to your respect for Boss." A glint of determination flashed across Cassandra's eyes. As though she had made up her mind on something, she gripped Spencer's warm hand with her soft one. "Also, this is my boyfriend! I wish you a happy life with Shiela."

Boyfriend?

Richard's gaze instantly became sharp as fiery rage boiled within him. "You chose someone from the White family, huh? Quite a choice you made there."

Shocked, Spencer looked at Cassandra before lowering his gaze stiffly to stare at his hand, which was being held by her.

His heart began racing. This is the first time a girl took the initiative to hold my hand. She's holding me so tightly.

For a moment, Spencer's mind went blank.

Right when he was still flabbergasted, Cassandra stood on her toes and planted a kiss on his cheek.

"Let's go, Sweetheart!" Despite the fact that her words were obviously directed at Spencer, she gave Richard a provoking look.

Richard controlled his seething urge to strangle the lady in front of him who had a monstrous strength. He was left with no choice but to watch as she walked away while holding Spencer's hand.

"Cassandra Jensen, you're such a bad girl!" Richard muttered, unsure if he was speaking to himself or simply venting. After standing still for a while, he finally turned around and left.

Cassandra continued to hold Spencer's hand until they reached a corner. She then let go of his hand abruptly and leaned against the wall, letting out a long and heavy sigh.

Sweat dotted her forehead and palms, for she was feeling extremely nervous.

Spencer stared at his hand, his heart feeling strangely empty. "You... were just trying to upset Mr. Shaw, right? It's okay. I understand... I'm willing to be a tool."

As soon as Spencer finished speaking, the awkward atmosphere between Cassandra and him immediately lightened.

Cassandra straightened her back. She glanced at Spencer before lowering her gaze again. Her long eyelashes covered her teary eyes and the trace of loneliness in them.

"I'm sorry for using you just now."

Cassandra couldn't help but take a few steps backward, wanting to create a distance between her and Spencer.

However, she lost her balance, as she was in too much of a hurry. Fortunately, Spencer reacted promptly and grabbed her wrist to help her steady herself.

Cassandra quickly shook Spencer's hand off. "I'm sorry... I-I didn't fall on purpose."

#### [Chapter 939 The White Family Of Jadeborough](#)

"You can do whatever you want in front of me. There's no need to apologize. You almost fell because you were being too nervous."

Spencer gave her a gentle look. "You're still young, and it's natural for you to meet some jerks in life. Since Mr. Shaw is already engaged, you did the right thing by drawing the line. It was a brave decision on your part."

Cassandra's pupils constricted as she looked at Spencer in disbelief. The latter subsequently tucked her hair behind her ear with an affectionate look in his eyes. "As long as you need me, I'm happy to be your servant."

Cassandra's moistened eyes sparkled in surprise. Despite the simplicity of the comment, the way Spencer said it gave it a domineering yet caring vibe.

The strange combination somehow made her heart skip a beat.

"N-No, it's fine."

As Spencer continued to stare at her, Cassandra couldn't help but blush. "Why are you looking at me like



that?"

"You look adorable." Spencer enunciated every word.

"That's so cheesy!" Brows knitted, Cassandra pushed Spencer aside before walking toward the auction venue. Nonetheless, her ears were already burning red.

Just as Cassandra arrived at the entrance, the elevator doors beside her opened and out came a well-heeled-middle-aged couple.

"Spencer? Is that you?"

When the couple called out to Spencer in a trembling voice, Cassandra turned around by reflex.

She then saw how the well-dressed couple's eyes lit up in surprise at the sight of Spencer. She could tell from the shock and longing in their eyes that they hadn't seen him in a long time.

The middle-aged lady hurried up to Spencer's side. "Spencer, how have you been? W-When will you come home?"

Before her hand could make contact with Spencer, the latter avoided it and replied indifferently, "I'm sorry, Mrs. White. I'm busy."

With that, he grabbed Cassandra's arm and headed inside.

Cassandra was baffled by the turn of events.

If I recall correctly, isn't that Mr. and Mrs. White?

The White family of Jadeborough was so influential that the prominent families in Lake City paled in comparison.

Staring at Spencer's leaving silhouette, Mavis suggested to Christian White in resignation, "Darling, let's go in too."

The latter let out a sigh. "It seems Spencer isn't ready to accept me yet."

"He will... with time." Just as Mavis spoke, she walked toward the venue with Christian.

As the auction was about to begin, most of the guests were already seated.

Dressed in a gown with a long train, Hera emerged with a microphone in hand as she smiled cordially at everyone present.

After making her way onto the auction stage, she threw the cards in her hand a glance before looking back up at the crowd below.

The moment she saw Ashlyn and Lucas seated together, the smile on her face froze awkwardly while her gaze subconsciously fell upon Ashlyn.

Jolted by a sense of hostility, Ashlyn looked up to be greeted by the sight of Hera standing on stage.

However, the latter quickly hid her emotions and maintained the elegant smile she was wearing. "I'm honored to be your host tonight for the charity auction. And now, let me introduce you to some of our distinguished guests. We have Lucas Nolan of Nolan Group, Old Mr. Laith of Magnecal Tech, award-winning actor, Jason Harris, Dixon Haddock of Haddock Group, Richard Shaw of Glorious Group, Winsor Jaquin of Jaquin Group....."

As Hera was a member of the Chapman family, she frequented many of such events.

As a result, she didn't feel nervous despite it being her first time as a host.

Speaking confidently and enunciating every word clearly, she was doing a great job so far.

Subsequently, she explained the auction process before allowing her assistant to introduce all the items on the block.

#### [Chapter 940 The Auction Begins](#)

The first item on auction that night was a porcelain figurine of Harvey's that was crafted during one of the dynasties of old.

As a result, it was considered a priceless antique that many of the industrial tycoons present clamored among themselves.

In the end, someone won the bid for it at five million.

The next item on the block was a diamond necklace which was sold just as quickly.

When it came to a porcelain vase that was popular with the crowd, Mavis won the bid at six million. She had always been a fan of intricate porcelain ware.

Meanwhile, when Christian snuck a glance at Spencer, he realized that no matter what he and his wife did, they would fail to capture the latter's attention.

Spencer was focused on the stage most of the time.

Ashlyn—in spite of her boredom—was obliged to buy a random antique in support of the disaster

recovery efforts.

With the passage of time, the items were auctioned off one by one.

Just when Ashlyn began to feel drowsy, an old book written by a famous poet of old was put on the block, capturing her attention.

Generally, people were more interested in collecting antiques, jewelry, and paintings.

Therefore, such a book didn't mean much to them.

"The bid for the book starts at five hundred thousand," Hera stated in an elegant voice.

No sooner had she spoken than Ashlyn raised her paddle. "One million."

Her bid drew shocked looks from everyone present. From their perspective, the book wasn't worth much at all.

She increased the bid by five hundred thousand? What's wrong with her?

"Honey, is that book worth a lot of money?" Lucas furrowed his brows curiously.

Many of the business magnates present who previously showed no interest in the book were suddenly intrigued by the jump in Madeline Saunders' bid.

If Ms. Saunders thinks that this is a treasure, it has to be one!

With that, Ashlyn watched on as the bid for the supposedly worthless book soared to three million before hitting five.

The sudden turn of events caused Ashlyn to grit her teeth in frustration.

What's wrong with these people? Why are they fighting with me over this old book?

In the end, she let out a sigh as she put her paddle down. "D\*mn it. There's no way I can splurge as much as they can."

Noticing that Ashlyn had given up, Hera couldn't resist commenting, "Ms. Berry, are you sure you no longer want the book? Or is it because Mr. Nolan doesn't want to buy it for you?"

Her insinuation was clear—Lucas' just wasn't that into Ashlyn.

It's just a book. If he really cares for you, he would've bid for it, especially when it only costs a few million. That's peanuts to him.

Despite furrowing her brows, Ashlyn didn't pay Hera any heed.

Stooping to her level will only sully my own reputation.

At the same time, Hera's remarks had ignited whispers among the crowd.

"Isn't it rude for Ms. Chapman to say such a thing about a guest?"

"Bidding for the item is Ms. Berry's decision. What has it got anything to do with her?"

The guests' reactions quickly made Hera realize the faux pas she had committed.

With an aggrieved expression, as if she had been wrongly accused, she attempted to clarify her words.

"Ms. Berry, I was just worried on your behalf. I didn't want to see you lose something that finally caught your eye."

However, an indifferent glance was all that Ashlyn spared her in response.

At the same time, Lucas—dressed in a sharp black suit—reprimanded her, "I think you should focus on your job as the host, Ms. Chapman. The affairs of others are none of your concern."

A collective snigger broke out across the floor.

Tsk tsk...

Hera's face lost all color after being given a dressing down.

The way Lucas defended his wife's honor filled all the women present with envy.

Thereafter, Hera stared at Lucas and Ashlyn with a hateful yet jealous look in her eyes.