

Under the Heiress' Facade #Chapter 61 - Read Under the Heiress' Facade Chapter 61

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"I grew up with you!" Hera tried to maintain a composed expression

"So what? You're the young lady of the Everett family anyway."

Bernard denied it, tightening his grip on her..

He looked at Hera in his arms. Her nervousness and the appearance of wanting to resist but not daring to move made her more approachable than her usual aloof and distant self.

He put her on the couch. His long hands were propped on the backrest and seat of the couch, imprisoning her between his arms.

"Nothing happened before, but now that you've grown up and we're not related by blood, the feeling is different"

His gaze was focused, and his lips curled up as he leaned in close to Hera's ear. "Especially since you saved my life."

Bernard's gentle and magnetic voice was very pleasing to the ears.

The warm breath from his words brushed against Hera's ear, causing her heart to skip a beat unintentionally. Her body trembled involuntarily

This kind of nervous feeling was subtle. It seemed like she was expecting something in her heart, but she was also afraid of what might happen.

"Perfect timing I can't stay in the Killian family anymore. How about I become the son-in-law of the Everett family?" Bernard looked at her intently.

If someone else were present and heard Bernard, who held almost as many shares as the Killian family's patriarch, they would probably be shocked to the point of dropping their jaws.

Hera pushed him away immediately.

She didn't understand why Bernard would tease her like this. Considering their identity and relationship, was impossible between them.

But due to their disparity in strength, her hands were pressed against Remard's chest but she couldn't push him away completely.

Bernard lowered his head, his forehead touching Hera's. "You can choose to agree to it or kiss me. I'll let you go either way."

"There's only one choice!" Hera frowned slightly.

"Very clever!" Bernard saw that she was about to get angry and stopped teasing her. He chuckled softly and continued, "Don't do things like obtaining a pyrrhic victory in the future."

Hera was speechless

So, he actually knew what happened tonight and deliberately walled for her at the door?

Bernard handed her a clean set of clothes and then turned to leave.

Hera felt an inexplicable sense of being manipulated and then abandoned

She felt a little annoyed.

After changing her clothes and drying her hair, Hera heard Bernard making a phone call faintly outside the suite.

He deliberately lowered his voice. "Take down the Everett family..

When Bernard returned, his expression was calm, and he brought a cup of chamomile tea

After drinking the tea, Hera's complexion finally showed some improvement.

"You don't need to worry about the Everett family's matters," Hera said.

Bernard casually glanced at her. He did not expect her to have overheard what he said outside the suite just now,

"I do want to worry, but I'm just an illegitimate child without power or authority in the Killian family" He chuckled softly, refusing to admit it.

Hera was speechless.

After washing up, Hera pretended to be sleepy and urged Bernard to leave

As he tucked her into bed and was about to leave, he reached for the light switch and turned off the lights.

Hera immediately sat up. "Don't turn off the lights!"

There was a trembling in her voice that she couldn't control

Bernard turned the lights back on, only to see Hera's pale face as she clutched the blanket tightly with both hands..

When did she grow afraid of the dark?

"Are you okay?"

He approached her, but he was stopped before his hand touched her. "Don't touch me!"

Hera raised her head, and her eyes were tinged with red with lingering fear.

Upon seeing Bernard's face clearly, she came back to her senses and covered her face with her hands. A moment later, she took a deep breath. .

Bernard looked at her fragile appearance and felt a twinge of pain in his heart. What had she been through all these years?

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"Alright I'll be in the living rooms. Call me if you need anything."

He lowered his hand which was frozen in mid-air and turned around. In that instant, the gentle glint in his eyes vanished, replaced by a cold gaze

The door closed, dividing the room and the living room into two separate spaces.

Inside the room, Hera regained her composure after taking a deep breath. The exquisite features on her face once again displayed an aloofness.

Her encounter tonight was all thanks to Giselle.

She could ignore her identity as the young lady of the Everett family, forget the Everett family's double standards, and even overlook Giselle's repeated provocations

But this time, Giselle had crossed her bottom line.

She wanted to play, didn't she?

She would play with Giselle and see if Giselle could handle it

Hers got out of bed, turned on the computer, and took out a mini USB flash drive from her phone case before plugging it into the computer.

She typed on the keyboard, and lines of code were generated across the screen.

In the living room, Bernard sat on the couch with a laptop on his legs. His long and slender fingers were tapping on the keyboard.

His expression was cold, and he gazed at the rapidly flashing code on the screen.

The first thing Giselle did when she woke up the next day was to check last night's news.

It made her jump in shock.

The top trending news was- "Zyler Gaskell wins third place in the International Chopin Piano Competition."

The second news was-

"Zyler Gaskell's fiancée caught cheating."

Not only was the scandal exposed last night not retracted, but it was also amplified by the media, particularly in conjunction with Zyler's award details.

After an overnight of heated discussion, netizens had already dug up her past misdeeds on the academy's forum.

Now, it would be difficult even if she wanted to keep the Gaskell family from knowing about last night's incident!

"Johnny, why hasn't last night's news been taken down?"

Giselle immediately called James' assistant, Johnny Pritchett.

"Ms. Everett, I tried to delete it last night, but I couldn't! I even tried to find the number one hacker in Norburgh, but they refused to take the job."

Johnny paused and asked tentatively, "Ms. Everett, did you offend someone? People in the hacker community are saying they dare not accept your tasks for fear of offending Raven."

“Who’s Raven?” Giselle asked.

“Raven is the codename of a hacker, the apprentice of the internationally renowned top hacker, S. He’s recognized as a big shot in the domestic hacker community. But we don’t know who Raven is,” Johnny explained.

Johnny didn’t know, and neither did Giselle

She didn’t even know who the real Raven was, so how could she have offended him?

But the person who wanted to see her embarrassed most had to be Hera!

So, it had to be Hera who found someone to prank her!

She really underestimated Hera.

“I’ve already had the Lawyer Issue a statement to refute the rumors. People will forget about this kind of entertainment gossip quickly. You don’t need to worry anymore. The trending news will be replaced when the next piece of news comes out,” Johnny advised.

As the person involved in the scandal, Giselle naturally couldn’t be as optimistic as Johnny.

It wouldn’t help even if a statement was issued to refute the rumors. The longer this news stayed trending, the more the Gaskells would believe it!

She couldn’t just sit and wait! She had to find new gossip to replace it quickly!

And the best candidate for this gossip was Hera

She put the most potent drug in that glass of juice precisely to prevent Hera from escaping.

Even if Hera managed to escape by chance, she would definitely need to find a man to get rid of the effects!

As soon as Giselle thought of this, she immediately went to the Imperial Hotel to check the surveillance footage.

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At the Imperial Hotel, the front desk attendant told Giselle, “I’m sorry, you don’t have permission to view the hotel’s surveillance footage.”

“I suffered a loss in your hotel last night, and you’re responsible! You must cooperate with me and show me the surveillance footage from last night. I need to find the culprit who

framed me.

i don’t cooperate with meti

Diselle took off her sunglasses, her demeanor imposing as she revealed her identity. “I’m Mr. Gaskell’s fiancée I’ll report you if you don’t coo

She deliberately mentioned the Gaskell family, thinking that the staff wouldn’t dare to easily offend the Gaskell family although the Imperial Hotel was Eamous in Noeburgh.

However, the front desk attendant still maintained a professional smile and said, “Ms. Everett, you’re welcome to make a scene if you’re not afraid of your surveillance footage || from last night being made public”

Everything had been arranged as someone had already predicted that Giselle would come.

“You!” Giselle’s face turned pale.

Who could order the staff of the Imperial Hotel and cover up for Heral

Gazelle’s mind conjured up a perfect handsome face—Bernard.

Everything made sense if it was someone from the Killian family who intervened.

As soon as she thought of Bernard protecting Hera, she clenched her fist tightly. Bernard should have been hers from the beginning!

Since Giselle couldn’t access the surveillance footage, she could only take the final step—find Zylar.

At Kraka International Airport at Udra, Zylar and his classmates were waiting at the VIP bunge.

“Zylar, your fiancée is also in the news.”

A classmate of his showed Zylar the domestic news he had just seen “Zylar Gaskell’s fiancée caught cheating”

Although the Everett family had issued a statement to refute the rumors, the video and photos of Giselle and the rumored older man being taken away by the police were not

Furthermore, things were escalating

Zyler's expression turned bad.

He hadn't even looked for Giselle yet, but Gisco's overseas call came first

"Gigi, what's with that news? Are you okay? Zyler walked aside and answered the phone.

"Zer, 1. Boo-hoo." Giselle burst into tears as soon as she started speaking.

She cried heartrendingly while gasping for breath. This completely broke Zyler's heart, and he had completely forgotten about the news,

Giselle finally stopped and began to explain after crying for a full ten minutes.

"It's not entirely Hera's fault. She just likes you and wants to be your fiancée, so she deliberately framed me

"Her?" Zyler laughed in anger

Giselle had complained to him about how Hera didn't just want to be a foster daughter previously and wanted to be the young lady of the Everett family. For this, Hera had made

Giselle suffer a lot

Now, not only did Hera want to be the young lady of the Everett family, but she also wanted to compete with Giselle for him?

He was the son of the Gaskell family!

He was born into a prestigious family and raised in luxury. He received a high-quality education, had excellent looks and outstanding academic performance, and was recognized as the prodigy of Norburgh.

How dare a country bumpkin like Hera, who was ugly and cheated her way into the entrance exam, have such thoughts about him?

She was daydreaming!

How could she not consider her appearance and status?

Only Giselle, with her noble birth, high education, kindness, and gentleness, was worthy of him.

As for Hera, it was impossible!

“Don’t worry, I only have you in my heart, Gigi I won’t be seduced by her!” Zylar assured her earnestly.

“I believe you, Zee.” Giselle achieved her goal and acted like a goody-goody. “But isn’t it unfair to Heta? She doesn’t know your feelings. When you come back, will you – Zyles immediately dispelled

her worries. “I’ll clarify everything with her after returning to Norburgh!”

Bernard stood by the floor-to-ceiling window on the eighth floor while watching Giselle’s tiny figure leaving the Imperial Hotel, His eyes were filled with a cold light “Mr. Killian, the matter has been handled according to your arrangements,” the manager of the Imperial Hotel said respectfully.

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“You can leave.” Bernard waved his hand.

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The manager immediately left, only exhaling deeply once he reached the door

In the presidential suite, the room door opened from the inside. Hera came out wearing a light pink tweed suit.

The light pink color made her fair skin appear even fairer, adding a hint of loveliness to her icy demeanor.

The clothes were prepared by Bernard.

Where are you going? I’ll drive you” Bernard turned around. The coldness in his eyes instantly disappeared and was replaced by a gentle glow.

Hera experienced once again what it meant for someone to change their attitude in the blink of an eye, and she didn’t refuse.

“Back to the Everett residence,” she said to him

Bernard was somewhat surprised. Why was Hera suddenly so casual with him?

Before he could ask, Hera added casually, "I'm too lazy to get a cab

Bernard was speechless.

He dropped Hera off at the entrance of the Everett residence before leaving

As his car left, a black BMW followed behind.

Inside the car, Gino was reclining lazily in the back seat with his feet propped up on the front seat. He was playing games.

The driver reminded him three times to sit properly and pay attention to safety, but it was all in vain.

Gino was a spoiled rich kid, so the driver could only try his best to drive steadily.

At this moment, he saw a tall and beautiful figure and muttered, "Ms. Hera is back."

"What?" Gino immediately threw away his phone and sat up but ended up falling back on the seat

The driver immediately slammed on the brakes, thinking that he was done for!

He had worked for nothing this month

He was already familiar with what was going to happen next. Gino would start wailing and howling about the driver's unstable driving, then complain to Mildred and have his salary deducted.

However, the expected crying didn't come.

"That country bumpkin finally returned." Gino got up quickly.

He saw Hera walking forward through the car window and urged, "Open the door! Hurry up!"

The driver was puzzled and quickly unlocked the back door.

Gino pushed open the door, jumped out of the car, and shouted behind Hera, "Hey, Hera! Stop right there!"

Hera ignored him and kept walking

She only returned to the Everett residence to confirm whether Lilith was involved in last night's incident.

“Hey, are you not only blind but also deaf!” Gino was angered by her indifference.

She hadn't replied to his messages before, and now she didn't even respond when she saw him.

He grabbed her clothes when he finally caught up to her. “I'm talking to you

“Let go of your filthy hand!” Hera glanced at his hand.

Gino let go instinctively but then wondered why he was obeying her!

He needed to save his reputation!

“Are you out of money and coming back to ask for some? Dad's not in a good mood recently. You'll only get scolded if you ask him for money once you come back. You'd better ask me for help. Hey, I'm talking to you!”

Before he could finish speaking, Hera had already walked away.

She didn't even show him any respect!

Gino hurriedly caught up with her by taking small steps. Before he could speak, Hera stuffed the unfinished tea in her hand into his arms.

“shut up and don't make a fuss”

Gino glanced at the half-drunk cup of tea in his arms, feeling annoyed. “Do you think I'm a trash can?”

After scolding her, he took a sip of the tea it was really sweet!

The driver was shocked Didn't Gino dislike Hera? Why did he seem so happy

py that Hera was back? And he even drank her leftover beer

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“Hera, you're finally back”

Lilith saw her and was very happy, pulling Hera into her warm embrace

Hera felt a bit uncomfortable, but she didn't avoid it and answered all of Lilith's questions

After some small talk, Lilith took out a bank card.

"Theard that you're not living on campus. Are you used to living on your own outside?"
She handed the card to Hera

"There's 100 thousand dollars in here. I saved it myself. Take it and let me know if it's not enough. Don't do anything that makes you unhappy."

The latter words were said very tactfully, but Hera pralized something Someone was talking nonsense to Lith, miking Llith worry about her.

It was obvious who that person was.

"I'm staying with a friend, so you don't need to worry. Take the money back. I have ebaugh." Hera returned the bank card.

Lichfelracle sad when Hera refosed her kindnes

She thought Hera was going to ask James for living expenses and explained, "Your dad is still angry, and his mood n't good because of what happened to Giselle last night.

"He went to the company early this morning, and he doesn't know you're back. You might not be able to get any living expenses from him, so you should take what I give you? Lilith didn't know the

truth about what happened last night

"I didn't come back for money. came back to visit you. How are you feeling? Hera said, taking Lilith's hand and checking her pulse.

Lilith was very touched and a linte surprised.

Since he moved out, it hadn't been feeling well

The doctor said it was due to blood deficiency, causing restlessness. She had been taking medicine for a while, but it not only didn't relieve her symptoms but also caused occasional chest tightness and headaches.

But she hadn't told Her about any of this, so how did the know?

After Hera checked her pulse, she took out an acupuncher kit.

Lilith was surprised. "Hea, you know acupuncture?"

"Heamed it from my grandmother." Hera spread out the acupuncture kit.

she skillfully performed acupuncture, finding acupoints and inserting needles with precision.

After removing the needles, she was pleasantly surprised when her chest tightness and headache disappeared.

She had been taking medicine for half a month without improvement, yet just a few needles from Hera had worked wonders.

"Could you take a look at your grandmother? she's been in the hospital all this while.

After saying it subconsciously, Lilith regretted when she saw her cold expression

"I'm sorry. I just want everything to go smoothly at home"

"Let's talk about it later" Hera said calmly.

Lilith felt a bit guilty. Hera had finally come back, but she had ruined the atmosphere.

She didn't mention it anymore, and she hesitated on how to offer the money to her,

After Hera packed the acupuncture kit up, she saw through Lilith's intentions.

"There are ways to earn money. You don't need to give me any," she said.

Lilith thought of Hera possibly doing part-time work and felt even more distressed and uncomfortable

Hera would rather work hard than ask for money from home.

Thinking of this, she took out another card.

"This is the supplementary card given to me. He said it has a monthly limit of 500 thousand dollars. I don't need it, so you can take it

Hera was speechless.

Hera took a nap on the couch before lunch.

Gino walked by, kicked the couch, and said, "Go back to your room

if you want to sleep. Don't be an eyesore here"

Hera opened her beautiful eyes which were clear and cold.

“What are you looking at me for? Do you want me to carry you back upstairs? Gino scolded grimly

“Gino, how can you talk to Hera like that?”

Liath came out of the kitchen and explained, “Hera, Gino actually wants you to go upstairs and take a look. He’s been keeping your room for you, hoping you’d come back to stay. Hera looked at Gino with surprise. She blocked his number when he annoyed her in the past

Liath blushed. “Who wants her to come back and stay? I just felt sorry for her and gave her the room! If she doesn’t want to live here, she can forget it! I’m going to eat. I’m starving!”

After speaking, he turned and walked arrogantly toward the dining room,

Hera remained silent.

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Lover.

Oina walked into the dining room and happened to see Judy carrying a garbage bag, about to take away the cup of tea on the coffee table. He immediately rushed on

“What are you doing with my tea?”

Judy shook the empty cup in her hand “Gino, thought it was empty.”

“It’s not empty!” Gino stepped forward and snatched it back. “There are still two drops left in it!”

After saying that, he shaped it up.

“Are you done with it now? Can I take the cup away?” Judy asked.

“No! I think this cup looks nice. Wash it clean and keep it for flower arrangements,” Gino said.

Judy was puzzled.

When did Gino become so thrifty?

After lunch, Hera went back to visit Tiramisu

Ging was angry to see her leave so quickly without even going upstairs to check the room out,

“Mom, how much pocket money did you secretly give her behind my back? She left as soon as she got the money! She’s so materialistic.”

“Hera didn’t ask me for money. She said she would earn it herself.”

Lilith actually wanted Hera to take the money. At least she could make up for her regrets of the past 17 years with it.

But Hera didn’t take a single penny, let alone the black card.

“Really?” Gino was skeptical

No wonder she brought him half a cup of tea as a gift when she came back. She was so frugal

He would give her some pocket money for the sake of that half cup of tea.

Hera suddenly received a WhatsApp notification about a transfer while in the car.

She opened it and saw that Gmo had transferred 25 thousand dollars to her.

Hera sent him a question mark.

Ginoc “Don’t bring such frugal gifts for me next time”

Hera replied with another question mark

When did she give him a gift?

Gino: “At least bring a whole cup of tea next time.”

Hera did not know what to say to that

She thought that Gino was quite cute

In the self–study class on Monday afternoon, Hera leaned her chin on one hand while swiping her phone with the other. Her posture was casual, but she exuded an air of dootness

On her phone screen was a WhatsApp conversation.

Piglet: “Boss, you’re amazing! I sent someone to search the hospital but couldn’t find Isabella and her mother!”

“Adtering some means, I found out that they disappeared from the hospital the day after Isabella’s mother was admitted for treatment!

“The key is that her mother’s medical records have been constantly updated”

This indicated that someone had noticed that Hera had found Isabella and deliberately arranged this diversionary Lactic

Hera hadn’t sent someone to visit them, she wouldn’t have noticed that Isabella and her mother had already disappeared!

Piglet “Now all the clues are gone.

“Beas, what should we do now? Should we report it to the police?”

Raven: “No need.”

Since the mastermind could arrange such a meticulous diversionary tactic, reporting it to the police would be useless.

Piglet “By the way, Boss, you haven’t said why you wanted to find this poor mother and daughter?”

Raven: “There are things you shouldn’t ask

Piglet: “I’m just curious.”

Hera blocked him before he could blabber.

I was suspicious that Isabella took her mother abroad for treatment.

Did the mastermind park because Hera was getting closer to the truth?

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Hera’s slender fingers moved back and forth on her phone.

It seemed that she was on the right track this time. Isabella and her mother were the key breakthroughs in the car accident years ago

But their sudden disappearance now suggested that she had been exposed

She had to find them quickly before the mastermind acted again!

At that moment, her phone screen suddenly lit up, alerting her to a new message. She quickly sat up straight

5 finally replied to her: "I heard you're looking for Isabella. You can take a look at this information."

Then, he sent over a document.

Hera glanced at the message she had sent earlier which was ignored by S. She had asked if she could meet with him.

She felt relieved that S replied to her message even though she had overstepped the boundary, which indicated that 5 was giving her a chance.

Raven: "Thank you, Mr. 5.

After some thought, she found a cute emoji in the conversation with Piglet and sent it over

As expected, 5 didn't reply again.

Hera opened the document, only to find information about Queenie Rians!!

Queenie was a distant relative of the Killian family. She was the wife of Terence Gaskell from the Gaskell family in Norburgh.

Did S providing her information about Queenie suggest that Isabella's disappearance was linked to Queenie?

In the evening, Hera was done checking Lilith's health at the Everett residence. Right as she was about to leave, Giselle stopped her.

"Hera, the Gaskell family is hosting a celebration banquet for Zee's award on Independence Day. You should join the event," Giselle said in the tone of a hostess,

"Sure!" Hera readily agreed

She was just thinking about find

Giselle's timing was really on point.

reason to go to the Gaskell residence, and it came to her.

"You haven't attended such a high-end banquet before. You need to wear formal attire. Take this set of formal attire with you" Giselle smiled and handed her a gift box.

Hera glanced at the gift box. It seemed that Giselle hadn't learned her lesson yet.

"Thanks." She took the gift box and left.

Giselle watched Hera's graceful figure as she left. Her smile disappeared instantly and was replaced by a venomous glare

This time, she would definitely embarrass Hera!

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Soon, it was Independence Day.

Bernard arrived at Skyview Heights with a stylist early in the morning

"I heard you're attending the Gaskell family's banquet, so I've hired a stylist for you."

Hera wasn't surprised. "You're really well informed."

"I care about you," Bernard said with a faint smile playing at the corners of his mouth.

This sentence sounded quite ordinary compared to what he said last time at the hotel

But it seemed that it was the stylist's first time hearing Bernard say such gentle words, and he even smiled!

She had the privilege of styling Bernard a few times. Although he deliberately wore glasses to make himself look gentlemanly and mild, he was actually cold and unapproachable.

She had wondered what kind of woman could match such a perfect man.

Now, she finally had the answer.

Hera was naturally beautiful, with skin so flawless that conventional cosmetics were unnecessary.

The stylist only applied some light makeup to her face and curled her hair.

Hera changed into a white sequined dress. The skirt was adorned with diamonds and shimmering sequins, enhancing her delicate features and fair skin. It gave her a fairy-like appearance.

She looked elegant with her jet-black hair slightly curled and paired with pearl accessories. The feather earrings swayed gracefully, which made her look like a doll

with her flowing hair, slender waist, and high nose bridge that accentuated her facial features, she captivated Bernard's gaze.

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"you need a male companion." Bernard extended his hand, making a gentlemanly invitation.

Tiramisu darted out from behind Bernard with a grunt and stood in front of him.

Its nose was directed at Hera, its tail wagging desperately. Its round eyes were gleaming as it saying, "Pick me Pick me!

Seeing this, Bernard furrowed his brows Eightly How dare a pig compete with him for attention!

He lifted his foot subtly and moved Tiramisu aside.

Tiramisu grunted disapprovingly at him twice and wanted to bite the bottom of his trousers, but it didn't dare to. It ended up pitifully snuggling up to Tera, whining and cooing for attention

Hera couldn't help but laugh at its antics. She squatted down and litted it before rubbing its little head.

Tiramisu closed its eyes in contentment. Afterward, it even stick out its tongue at Bernard, proudly showing off that its owner chose it.

Bernard was speechless.

"I'm suddenly craving pork chop. What should I do?" His long Engers landed on Tiramisu's back

Tiramisu's hair stood on end immediately, and it snuggled into Hera's arms. If it were a species with thick fur, it would probably look like a puffed-up pig.

Hera was speechless.

Meanwhile, the stylist's jaw almost dropped as she was astonished by this interaction.

Bernard was actually jealous of a pig!

When it was time for the banquet, Bernard dropped Hera off near the entrance of the Gaskell residence.

“Do you really not want me to accompany you? I really want to go. Bernard looked at Hera, his deep gaze seemingly capable of entrancing people.

Douglas had parked the car. He almost choked while drinking water when he heard Bernard’s pleading tone

Wasn’t it Bernard who threw the invitation card sent by the Gaskell family into the trash?

“No, you don’t want to.” Hera rebused.

Bernard was in Norburgh, and the Gaskell family had to know about him. They must have invited him to the banquet, and if he didn’t plan on attending it in the first place, there was even less reason for him to appear with her.

Moreover, she came to the Gaskell residence for a reason.

Bernard looked at her with a piecting gaze. “You’re dressed so beautifully. I’m worried you might run off with someone”

Douglas choked on his water up front

Good gracious! Was this really something Bernard would say?

“I won’t. Tiramisu will accompany me.” Hera picked up Tiramisu.

Tiramisu immediately lifted its proud little head toward Bernard, revealing the black bow tie specially worn around its neck.

Bernard looked at the pig in her arms, as if he were looking at a plate of pork chop, and sighed regretfully. “Fine. Call me if you need anything.”

“Okay,” Hera responded and got out of the car white bolding Tiramisu.

The atmosphere at the Gaskell family’s banquet was grand and lively, with guests mingling and toasting each other.

Giselle walked gracefully into the banquet hall wearing a white dress.

The dress, adorned with diamonds and sparkling sequins, made her look charming and attractive. It drew many admiring glances.

“Wow, Giselle! You look really beautiful today.”

Some recognized the dress Giselle was wearing

“This dress is from the hands of the international top designer, Karl Lagerfeld, right?”

“Yes, It’s called “The Angel, designed by Kack for his first love. The diamonds and sequins on it were all sewn on by him personally.”

“It’s really

y gorgeous. I wanted to buy it too, but it’s a limited edition.”

“This dress is hard to come by. I heard even the Duchess of Jascil couldn’t get it. I didn’t expect you to get it. You’re amazing!”

“I didn’t expect the Everett Family to be so wealthy”

“Giselle, you look so beautiful in ”

Faring everyone’s compliments, Giselle smiled gracefully. “Thank you.”

At flih moment, the previously lively banquet suddenly quieted down, and everyone looked toward the entrance.

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Hera walked in wearing a gown while cradling Tiramisu in her arms.

Someone chuckled.

Quietly, the people made space

oce for Hera a

and Giselle to stand face to face. To everyone’s surprise, they were decked out in matching dresses.

But where Hera radiated elegance effortlessly, Giselle seemed to lack the finesse, charm, and poise that Hera effortlessly exuded.

Though clad in identical attice, they exaded entirely different vibes. One seemed like a mere pauper striving for the stars while the other was like a princess.

Giselle couldn’t help but feel jealous as she looked at Hera, who stood before her so majestically. Even though the gown was a replica, it seemed tailor–made for Hera

Despite her jealousy, Giselle’s excitement for the upcoming spectacle overshadowed any resentment she harbored.

Seeing Giselle in the same gown, Hera instantly grasped why she had been given it. She parted Tiramisu's head and whispered, "Remember what I told you? Go ahead."

With that, she released Tiramisu, who scurried off to find a spot. The onlookers were more interested in the drama than Tiramisu.

"Hera, where did you get this gown? It looks remarkably authentic for a knockoff," Lily scrutinized Hera. Lily, a scion of the Bourne family, was one of the guests invited by the Gaskell's.

"Knockoff?" Hera's expression remained indifferent.

Lily sneered, "This gown is called The Angel, a one-of-a-kind! There's only a single set in existence. If Giselle's gown is legit, then isn't what you're sporting just a replica?"

"Lily, why bother talking to her? She's just a country bumblebee taken in by the Everetts. She probably isn't familiar with luxury goods at all. If it weren't for the Everetts, she wouldn't even be at such an upscale banquet," someone interjected.

*she's wearing the same gown as Giselle at Mr. Gaskell's celebration despite her lack of knowledge about luxury goods. What's her motive?" Lily mocked.

Whispers spread among the onlookers.

As an adopted daughter, Hera's decision to wear the same gown as the heiress of the Everetts could be interpreted as attention-seeking or an attempt to steal Giselle's fiancé. After all, the guests invited by the Gaskells were all affluent and influential figures.

*Lily, why are you picking on Hera like that? Maybe she didn't realize she was wearing a knockoff and just wanted to look good for the party. Maybe she was duped into buying a fake," Giselle defended.

Giselle approached Hera in a friendly manner. "Hera, why didn't you let me help you choose a gown? It could've spared us all this...."

Giselle's hesitant tone, coupled with Hera's cold demeanor, fueled more speculation.

Despite being the adopted daughter of the Everett family, Hera's actions seemed ungrateful and scheming. She appeared to be nothing more than a haughty country girl.

"Are you sure yours is authentic?" Hera's gaze turned icy as she observed Giselle's hypocritical demeanor.

"Hahaha, that's a funny question." Lily chuckled.

The surrounding crowd joined in the laugh.

They were loyal fans of Karl Lagerfeld's designs. Each season, the designer's new collection was in high demand, especially if it was a limited edition.

Obtaining a limited-edition piece was almost impossible. Nonetheless, they wouldn't settle for knockoffs, knowing it would tarnish their family's reputation

Aware that their image reflected their family's standing, any blemish would not only tamish their personal reputation but also besmear their family's and company's name.

Giselle had always been a patron of designer brands. They knew she wouldn't wear fake goods to her fiancé's celebration!

"Karl Lagerfeld's haute couture engraves their logo on every accessory," Hera explained, plucking a sequin from Giselle's dress.

Giselle was caught off guard by the tug. Her horror deepened as the sequin came loose, clattering to the ground alongside others from her dress.

Chapter 20

Chapter 70

Chapter 70

Giselle's face drained of color in an instant, her hand instinctively covering the affected area. How in the world could this happen?

"There's no logo here," someone pointed out after picking up a sequin from the ground.

"No! This can't be," she exclaimed in disbelief she checked several sequins and even the diamond base, but none bore the engraved logo!

Her mind went blank. She grabbed hold of Hera's skirt, frantically examining the sequins. Each one sported the logo!

How was this even possible! She had clearly given Hera a knockoff gown, so how did it turn out to be the real deal? Was it swapped? "You—" Giselle pointed accusingly at Hera

Upon confirmation that Hera was indeed wearing the genuine The Angel gown, the onlookers' attention swiftly shifted to Giselle. It turned out the joke was on her.

"And what about me?" Hera chuckled lightly. "Did I sneaky wear the genuine one while we agreed to wear knockoffs together?"

In reality, Hera didn't pay much attention to luxury brands. She preferred the sheath evening gown her grandmother made for her.

Coincidentally, Bernard saw Hera bringing home the gown Giselle had given her. He immediately discarded it in disgust and fetched an identical gown that morning.

A swift online search for the gown's logo enlightened Hera about the situation.

Giselle widened her eyes in disbelief. She had paid a high price for this gown. How could it be fake? And how could Hera afford the genuine one?

"Alright, that's enough!" a male voice cut in.

The onlookers made way, revealing a young man in a fitted white suit. He walked over with a meaningful expression.

"Zer." Giselle's tears welled up at the sight of Zyler's arrival. She appeared vulnerable and pitiful.

Zyler's heart softened looking at her.

"Don't M

worry.

Gigi I'm here now. No one can bully you," he assured, draping his suit jacket over her.

Then, turning to Hera, he asked hesitantly, "Are you Hera?"

She wasn't quite what he expected.

"And who might you be? Hera inquired calmly, leaving everyone stunned with her composed response. After all, Zyler was the star of today's gathering! "He's from the Gaskell family. Zyler Gaskell, Giselle's fiancé," someone in the crowd reminded her.

Hera sized up Zyler. He seemed decent, maybe a 7.9 out of ten, but certainly not as attractive as Bernard. Giselle's taste in men was obviously lacking.

Zyler was taken aback, feeling as though Hera was intentionally putting on a show. But what was with Hera's looks?

Giselle had complained about Hera numerous times, but she never showed him a photo of Hera. He pictured Hera as matirartha sel

think she'd be the stunning beauty standing before him!