Flirtacious 421

Chapter 421

Sylvie, too, had noticed that the bigwigs were staring at her. Her eyes glinted, but she retained her composure.

Having been in the entertainment industry for as long as she did, she was one who had learned how to manage her own emotions well.

Genevieve was feeling a little hot, and her cheeks were flushed from performing on stage for some time. Picking up the flask from the revolving tray, she went on to pour herself a glass of water and started chatting with Jan beside her.

Shortly into their conversation, Jan could not help but ask, "Aren't you going to say hello to Mr. Faulkner?"

Then, he pointed to her right.

As though she had just noticed his presence, Genevieve said apologetically, "I was busy drinking and didn't notice that you were there."

"It's been a while, Mr. Faulkner." When she extended her hand, the jasmine bracelet around her wrist got dislodged, and she quickly bent down to retrieve it.

As she did so, a few locks of her raven black hair brushed against the man's suit pants.

Armand was able to feel the mildly ticklish sensation that resulted when her hair swept over the fabric that lay atop his thigh.

Then his leg twitched. It felt as though he had stepped on something.

aside the pristine white tablecloth, he reached toward the floor to pick up the

Genevieve received the floral accessory from

by representatives of the charitable foundation at the doors. She still needed to keep it on as there would

was passive, and his

was as though

looked past the man toward Sylvie. "What a lovely coincidence that you're

real coincidence indeed."

to produce one film each year, all of which were helmed by famous directors, and with each

awards and generated more income from the movies than she could ever hope to spend, so

premiere and show my support if I'm able

Rachford." Taking a sip of water, Sylvie then asked, "Did you

Why would I need an entourage following me about? Perhaps you've already grown accustomed to having your makeup artist and assistant around, being a star and all, but personally,

stiffened for a moment. Then, she smiled

the table were all men who were relatively more klutzy in comparison. As such, they thought that the two ladies were merely chatting, unable to tell that

come across articles written about you. According to them, women around Mr. Faulkner come and go, but only you have

Chapter 422

Raising the glass to shield her own curled-up lips, Genevieve desisted with her own nosiness.

Soon after, the server brought up a plate of crab.

From the looks of it, Genevieve adjudged that it must be rather delectable. Yet, she demonstrated no intent to tuck into it.

Incidentally, Jan noticed that. He took it upon himself to say, "Would you like me to deshell it for you, Ms. Rachford?"

"No, it's fine." Genevieve shook her head smilingly. "That sort of stuff will only be enjoyable when it's done by one's own beloved."

Eyeing the crab on the plate, Sylvie became tempted to prove a point to Genevieve. She leaned close to Armand and said, "I'd like to try the crab, Mr. Faulkner, but my nails are too long. Would you be so kind as to help deshell one for me?"

In the last four years, it had been common knowledge within the business circuit that not only did Armand have Sylvie brought along for events of all sorts, but he would also be very obliging toward her every whim.

Word had it that Armand had once splurged eight hundred million for a diamond necklace the minute it caught Sylvie's eye at an auction.

As such, how could he possibly refuse to help her with something trivial as the deshelling of a crab?

"Sure." Expectedly, Armand did not turn her down.

a crab from the plate when he paused and gently said, "You're allergic to seafood. Remember the last time when you almost went into shock from having that

Armand's

Sylvie before he spoke hesitantly, "I saw that you've nearly finished your bisque, Ms. Clasen... Are you

great thoughtfulness toward Sylvie, Armand immediately summoned the server and asked him to purchase some medication

Genevieve. She set her glass down on the table

were dance performances on the stage while

auction brought on stage when the performances ended, after which

and were not really all that

soon as the auction began, everyone started to raise their bidder cards. Predictably, the prices

had

who shared the same table as Genevieve,

masses turned toward

is wild! Doesn't he know that Genevieve is Armand's ex-wife? To think that he'd sit at the same table as Armand himself and acquire the violin that

wondering whether he was really splashing out all that dough for the sake

others were giving them, Genevieve regarded Jan

Chapter 423

After she was done with the photography session, Genevieve went off to the lounge and waited quietly at the side.

Less than two minutes later, Jan came over to her.

"I've bought that violin for my daughter, who is also fond of the instrument," said Jan to Genevieve. "That being said, I was wondering if you would be willing to become my daughter's music teacher?"

"I'm not a professional violinist, Mr. Wasco." Not expecting that he meant to put forward such a request of her, Genevieve shook her head and declined, "With your reputation, you could practically hire any internationally renowned music teacher you want."

Jan smiled bitterly. "I did try that before, but the teacher gave up after two days, refusing to do it again for any amount of money."

"Is your daughter very mischievous?" Genevieve asked.

"No." Jan fell silent briefly and then sighed, "My daughter is severely autistic."

That daughter of his was an only child and one whom he had begotten late in his life. He had not planned for his wife to conceive again owing to her poor constitution, and it came even less expectedly to him that the girl was afflicted with such a condition.

Seeing how fond his daughter was of the violin, Jan sought to find her a music teacher to instruct her in the proper use of the instrument. Unfortunately, she kept driving her teachers crazy, time and again.

Being a mother herself, Genevieve understood how dear children were in the eyes of their own parents, so she asked Jan for a name card. "I'll contact you when I'm available, but no promises whether or not your daughter would drive me away."

Jan's lips broke into a wide smile. "Thank you for this."

they were done talking, Genevieve realized that there were not that many guests left inside that Armand and Sylvie were not around, she assumed to herself about how Armand got through the entire evening without looking at slip away with his lover were in the uniforms of the hotel's waitresses. A peculiar was downstairs, I overheard Mr. Faulkner confirm with his secretary that he'll be staying make any sense of that, Genevieve turned to ask one of and sprayed its content in Genevieve's back to the room that he had booked. After he swiped his card and entered the doorway, the lights in the pulling off his tie and making his way into the bedroom, he discovered that someone was lying on Hence, every once in a while, there would creative than he wanted to turn around. That was until he spied that the hem of her dress, a pair of fair, slender legs were left exposed. The reached for the switch on the window came flooding in, partially illuminating the room and that marvelous body that

Chapter 424

After an undetermined amount of time had transpired, the first light of dawn rose beyond those darkened windows, illuminating the dusky bedroom.

On and off the bed, it was the same state of disarray.

Lowering his gaze, Armand regarded the woman who had been using his arm as a pillow.

She was sleeping soundly with her slender brows bunched together, and her body was covered with marks from the neck down.

Soft and supple skin, with long and luscious raven-black hair, it has been so many years, yet she still looks like a young girl. From her eyes to her body, nothing about her has changed.

Armand pulled the comforter over to cover the woman with it. Spotting that black tattoo on her hip, he ran his fingertips over it a few times.

In the midst of her slumber, Genevieve moaned and snuggled herself into his arms as though her body needed her to.

It took Armand quite some time to slowly settle his own emotions. Then, his gaze reverted to the way it usually was.

Withdrawing his arm from Genevieve's head, he casually laid the comforter over her body and then got up to head inside the bathroom.

The doorbell sounded around the time Armand was done showering,

Having received instructions, Steven purchased two sets of clothing of the appropriate sizing.

to collect the clothing, Steven appeared to want to say something, but in the end, he decided to

at which Armand brought the clothes into the bedroom

long dress down on the bed, he removed his bathrobes and

sober herself up. She licked her own lips only

out his own attire. He reached for his cuffs from the side table and put them on unhurriedly. Turning toward Genevieve, he asked in a lukewarm voice,

her trance. Only then did she

him toward her. "Are you blind, Armand Faulkner?

riled up such a fury within her that it threatened

cussed Genevieve

his head to

Then, he tore it out to pass it along to her.

injury, Genevieve was so upset that she

into pieces and hurled them into his face. Then she grabbed the undergarments and dress off the bed and proceeded to put

she was, but those clothes nonetheless fitted

did not go very far before she realized

the bag, she used them to pelt the man. "Keep

Chapter 425

"Good morning, everyone." Conversely, it was Genevieve herself who greeted the employees she encountered while she made a beeline toward the front desk.

"Has Mr. Sutton come in yet?" she asked the receptionist.

"He has. As it's Monday, he should be in a meeting." The long-serving staff who manned the front desk at Specter Corporation was able to recognize Genevieve the moment she heard her speak and thus handed the executive pass to the latter.

After Genevieve left, the two receptionists huddled together to gossip. "It really is Ms. Rachford. She looks even more stunning than she did four years ago. Her skin is so fair!"

"This means the one standing beside Mr. Faulkner at that charity event last night must have been Ms. Rachford herself."

Although Spring Rain Charity Night kept a low profile and did not accept interviews from the media, the staff from the Spring Rain Foundation had inserted the group photos taken of the bigwigs at intervals within the writings that summed up the events of the day.

Sylvie, who was then considered a top female celebrity, had garnered for herself an astoundingly huge following.

They started retweeting the moment they saw the photos from the charity gala. *Sylvie was in great form last night. That black spaghetti strap dress is a real killer!*

Sylvie and Mr. Faulkner look so good together that they should just hurry up and get married!

Her legions of fans spent good money to get that photo trending on several different platforms.

on Twitter for four years prior, retweeted that group photo with

the show from the sidelines were wildly entertained. They commented about how Sylvie's fans were wasting their own money to have her

found ways to attack Genevieve from other angles by chiding her for

It was the staff who arranged for me to stand there, so what's wrong with that? I genuinely didn't know that

Sylvie's fans were dumbstruck.

had been around Armand and had been frequently brought around to attend various functions alongside him, he had also been

publicly made any affirmative statements about his relationship

spectacle thus commented: Isn't Armand Faulkner Genevieve Rachford's ex-husband? From the looks of it, it would seem to me that Sylvie is riding on Genevieve's fame by hanging around him. Wasn't her resemblance to Genevieve the very reason Mr. Valentine chose her to be his lead actress on her debut? Doesn't that mean Sylvie probably has

comment was swiftly liked until it got bumped up to the number one spot, shutting up all the fans from the opposite

be searched up easily online, they were left

topic while browsing Twitter, she could not resist retweeting it and making Sylvie's fans

made her feel much better, but it also

quickly again. Seems to me that he and Sylvie often engage in such

enough that he bedded her, he even mistook her for

took one large gulp of coffee to quell her own anger. When she

Chapter 426

In truth, Cooper had not been able to dig up much information on Jack using the connections Armand had provided during his trip to Dartan.

Knowing that the Helt family was extremely powerful, and with Jack being the head of the Helt family and Dartan his own domain, Cooper understood that it would be easy for the latter to erase whatever information he wanted.

Without waiting for Genevieve's reply, Cooper got up to walk toward the desk and retrieved a photograph from the bottom of the drawer.

He then passed that along to Genevieve. "Did it have anything to do with her?"

After his return from Dartan, Cooper told Armand everything he had learned, save that photo, which was almost completely burned, that he did not pass along.

Even through the murkiness of the photo, one could still vaguely tell that it featured a very attractive young woman.

Peering down at the photo, Genevieve laughed. "You're sharp, Coop. I'd give you that. Didn't expect that you'd be able to figure out this much based on this one blemished photo, despite not knowing anything about it to start with."

"The timing isn't right at the moment, though," Genevieve continued, shaking her head. "I'll explain everything after I've finished sorting things out."

"Okay." Seeing that she was reluctant to divulge, Cooper did not want to press any further.

the Helt family had an unusual connection with the investment firm behind the venture that revived the Wood Group. It turned out it was Jack's ex-wife, Lillian, and not Jack himself, who was the

family as well, considering that the latter

be rich, but Xavier had no obvious talent

the entire Wood family into the ground, after which all of the profitable businesses to the Wood Group's name became swiftly

Jack has managed to acquire a considerable stake in the Faulkner Group. Last year, he

lips. "Yeah. I knew about

went on to tell him about her intention to use Jack as part of her plans for seeking revenge, why she had spent the last four years in Dartan, and how she had not been idle during that time

the things that had happened during her prolonged period of absence, someone else's name also

"How is Jane doing?"

it, then said, "Wasn't she going to marry into the Wood family? All these years, Armand had been secretly preventing that from happening. He had her brought to Jadeborough after her father's sudden passing in an accident

few steps..." Cooper continued as a look of

toward Jane, who was intelligent and beautiful, only to be cursed with

to lend a hand if she asks you for anything. Just think of her as your sister as

Chapter 427

When Genevieve reached the secretarial department, she saw Johanna working at her desk and asked, "Wanna go eat barbecue?"

Without looking up, Johanna replied, "I'm not free. Go ahead without me, Ms. Rachford."

Genevieve had an ominous feeling when she heard the woman's tone.

As such, she reached out and tugged on Johanna's arm before saying softly, "Is work really more important than me? Is our friendship worth less than your few hours of pay? We hadn't seen each other for four years! I missed you so much. Didn't you miss me too?"

Johanna looked up and glared at Genevieve before replying, "And you have the nerves to say that? Back then, you left after sending me a note and ended up being away for four years. Genevieve, don't you think that's too much?"

"Yes, it was my fault! Please forgive me just this once?" Genevieve pleaded. "Let me treat you to something good, okay?"

Initially, Johanna had intended to ignore Genevieve as she was indeed outraged. However, it wasn't convenient for them to talk about personal affairs in the secretarial department as the other employees might return at any time.

After letting out a snort, Johanna grabbed her bag and left with her friend.

As it was only around ten in the morning and not lunchtime yet, Genevieve took Johanna to a cafe in a nearby shopping mall and ordered two cups of coffee.

In an attempt to appease her friend, Genevieve told Johanna that she had only kept all those things from her because she did not want to implicate her.

had boarded the plane. However,

to Dartan and forced

"I don't understand what you're saying at all. If you don't want to

"Because ... "

telling

after listening to the woman's clarification. Seeing that, Genevieve let out a chuckle and said, "I've kept this bottled up for

didn't you tell Mr. Faulkner

of hot coffee

enough things to deal with... Besides, Jack is crazy. Not only that, but he also controls Helt Corporation. He will do anything for revenge. Since I

heard that. "Does that

Genevieve nodded with a

pictures of her two children. "I gave birth to twins. One boy and one girl. It definitely wasn't

from her and beamed in excitement when she saw the adorable little girl, who looked just like

Is this really your

at once, "I can totally

Chapter 428

Genevieve took a sip of coffee and cupped her face with her hands before asking Johanna, "What about you and Timothy? You guys have been married for a few years. Do you have any kids yet?"

"Not yet." Johanna shrugged and said nonchalantly, "We're still too young to be parents."

After saying that, the woman looked at her friend and smiled devilishly. "Now that you've given me a godson and a goddaughter, I don't feel like having kids of my own anymore!"

"Too young to be parents? If I remember correctly, Timothy is already thirty-two this year, right?"

Johanna said, "Is thirty-two considered old? Look at your Armand. If you didn't get pregnant, he would still be childless even at thirty-seven!"

Genevieve was at a loss for words when she heard that.

Johanna glanced at the time on her watch and got up, saying, "I'm famished! Let's go eat barbecue now. If we go any later, we might have to queue to get a table. We can continue chatting while we eat."

"Sure." Genevieve left with Johanna after footing the bill.

Johanna blabbered on and on while they ate, telling Genevieve how angry she had been when the latter left back then. She was upset as she thought their friendship wasn't important to Genevieve at all and had planned to ignore her forever. However, she ended up making up with Genevieve over a free barbecue meal.

Genevieve told Johanna that there were some things she had found out during the past four years when she was in Dartan. She also told her friend about her plans after returning to the country.

Johanna took out a few pieces of tissue to wipe away her perspiration before asking worriedly, "What if you lose the bet?"

won't happen,"

made arrangements for my two kids in case I end up losing the bet. Besides, with you and Cooper taking care of them, there's nothing for

keep anything from me anymore!" Johanna glared at her friend angrily before saying, "Otherwise, I'll

Johanna, feeling speechless. "I never knew you were

the barbecue restaurant, the two women left and shopped

there for a promotional event, the mall was exceptionally crowded that

told Johanna that she could choose any clothes or jewelry she liked and offered to pay for all her shopping expenses. The two of them hung out at the clothing department for a few hours

headed to the perfume section

two women walked into the shop, a sales assistant approached them. After taking a look at Genevieve, she greeted her with

"How did you

alike, but there are still some

sales assistant let out a smile before explaining, "Besides, she's our spokesperson, and I've seen her before. You're much prettier than her, and your demeanor is very different from hers

irritation

other words, she and Sylvie did not look that similar, but that man had still failed

he still wrote a cheque

her friend's glum expression and seemed to have understood what was going on. "Judging by your expression, I'm guessing that you met Mr. Faulkner after you came back, and he mistook you for Sylvie?" she asked

Chapter 429

Genevieve made her way over while having her head held high. She reached out and tugged at Timothy. "So, Dr. Jensen, who are you with?"

Timothy turned around.

He heard, via the news, that Genevieve had returned, so he wasn't surprised to see her there. However, he never expected her to hang out with Johanna.

Timothy felt strangely guilty when he saw Johanna there. "This is my friend. I ran into her while shopping."

He was only there to get some stuff and didn't expect to run into his friend.

The friend turned around when Genevieve and Johanna showed up.

The young lady had a stunning face with bright eyes and looked as though she was still a teen.

She inched closer to Timothy and asked timidly. "Timothy, who are they?"

Genevieve rolled her eyes when she saw her terrible acting.

She scoffed, turned to Timothy, and asked, "Dr. Jensen, aren't you going to introduce us?"

Timothy massaged his head a little. Exasperated and left with no choice, he replied, "This is my friend, Denise Wallowitz."

After that, Timothy turned to Denise and said, "This is Genevieve, and this is Johanna, my wife."

and troubled when she heard

too much about this. My friend canceled on me last minute, and I happened

her lip a little, but she didn't

asked, "Uh-huh, so what were the two of you going to do if you hadn't run into us? Are you going

company as she shops for lipstick. Also, it doesn't matter even if we plan

right. I'm in no position to ask any questions," replied Genevieve while nodding. After that, she pointed at the lipsticks the sales lady was holding

the saleslady before she hurried off

tell that Genevieve was angry, so she kept her head down and muttered, "I promise I will never get close to Timothy again, so please,

nobody like you? My, you sure know how to twist the truth, huh? Are you studying performance arts? If not, you should really switch majors. It'd be such a waste because you will surely

The latter tilted her head even lower and intertwined

it anymore, so he shouted, "Hey, Genevieve. You're crossing a

replied to her. What's so wrong about that?" challenged Genevieve. "Also, your wife is standing right here. Yet, you are ignoring her and protecting some other woman. My gosh, Timothy. You really are an

lady returned with the packed lipsticks. She handed them and

with her and meekly asked, "Will you sell me lipstick number 144? I'll pay extra

replied Genevieve before she dragged Johanna

way at the time, so Genevieve bumped

just a soft bump when their shoulders

though she lost her balance and fell backward, right

Chapter 430

It didn't take long before Denise made her way to him and spoke in a meek tone. "I'm so sorry, Timothy. I'm the reason your wife is angry... I-I'll apologize to her."

A hint of distaste and annoyance welled up in Timothy's heart when he saw how pretentious she was.

However, he soon thought about how she was the only girl left in the Wallowitz family, and that made it impossible for him to stay mad at her. He simply massaged his numb face.

"There is no need to apologize for anything because it has nothing to do with you."

Timothy retrieved a cash card from his pocket and handed it to Denise. "Go buy anything you want. I have to hurry back to the hospital because I have a night shift."

"Okay," replied Denise. She nodded obediently and left with the card.

Johanna helped Genevieve out of the shopping mall and was surprised to see that it was raining.

Worried, the former held the latter's hand and asked, "Genev, are you okay?"

"It's fine. I didn't fall that hard," answered Genevieve. Her hand no longer hurt. "Do you know that girl from earlier?"

Johanna shrugged and replied in a nonchalant tone. "He has dozens of friends, so it's not strange that I don't know all of them. Still, I am surprised to see him hurt you like that. That is so mean!"

even if Timothy stayed out all night every day, but she would not stand idly by if he

Genevieve, I wouldn't

first, I wanted to give you some advice, but my love life is in a

how love is, right? We get together if we're a good match, and we fall apart if we're not. Divorce

I am," commented Genevieve. "You have

emotional. Letting her heart roam freely had caused her too much

envy you, Genev," replied Johanna. She pursed her lips a little and sounded genuinely envious when she said those words. "At the very least, someone loved you with all his heart.

parents, who had passed, or Cooper,

past, so she was heartbroken for her. Hence, the former teased, "It's fine. I'll love you from now on. If things between you and Timothy really are that bad, then how about you

single," replied Johanna as she rolled her eyes at Genevieve. The former fished an umbrella out of

it difficult for an owner to locate his or her parked car. That

walking toward their car when she saw a black Maybach parked at the

the car looks

her chin to get Genevieve to turn her attention to the car. "Look! It's Mr.

look and realized that Johanna was right. Troubled, she