

Chapter 16 A Mysterious Invitation

"Mr. Mortiz, please, you know how much I've sacrificed to win this role. Please, give me another chance. I won't let you down!"

Maddie pleaded, tears streaming down her cheeks, looking all pitiful.

Knowing Merissa was watching, she was seething with resentment.

Ignoring Maddie, Edgar turned to Merissa. "Ms. Narth, what do you say?"

Maddie's eyes widened in disbelief. Did Edgar really ignore her?

And now he was letting Merissa decide her fate!

Why?! Why did Edgar respect Merissa so much?!

Merissa gave Maddie a quick look before calmly saying, "Thanks, Mr. Mortiz, but I have no plans to pursue acting right now."

She then glanced at Maddie dismissively.

Edgar sighed at Merissa's refusal, "Well, that's too bad."

He then glanced at Maddie, now a mess of tears,

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and reluctantly said, "Fine, I'll give you one more chance. But this is the last one. Don't blow it."

Ready to leave, Merissa picked up a call from Kurt and headed for the door.

Just as she reached the door, Maddie darted over to block her path.

Merissa stopped with a frown.

"What now?"

Maddie felt irritated by her flat tone. But knowing the insult she was about to drop, Maddie swallowed her anger and put on her usual gentle expression, pulling out a fancy-looking invitation from her bag and handing it to Merissa.

"Thanks for earlier. I know it's been tough on you lately, and that's why you've been acting weirdly. Honestly, I didn't expect Richard to divorce you the moment I came back... This banquet is a big deal. Lots of important people will be there. I thought... you might need this..."

She handed the invitation to Merissa.

Merissa didn't intend to accept the invitation, but the moment she saw the host's name on it, her expression changed!

It was him!?

Seemed that he was coming back.

Receiving no response, Maddie grew anxious.

"Merissa?"

Merissa smirked faintly and said, "I don't need it. Keep the invitation for yourself."

"Merissa, are you still upset about Richard divorcing you? You've got it wrong. I've got nothing going on with Richard. It's just that lately..."

Maddie's voice trailed off, her head bowed, infusing her words with insinuation.

"Ms. Ford, if you could use such acting skills for your career, you might actually get somewhere," Merissa said sarcastically.

Maddie's face turned red with anger. "Merissa, why so hostile? Are you worried you might see Richard and me together at the banquet? I know it's hard for you to admit, but don't punish yourself. After all, who knows when Cartland might..."

Cartland might what? Dump her? Fall for someone else?

Who gives a toss?

With a snort, Merissa shot back at Maddie. "Don't worry about me. I don't need an invitation to get in."

Maddie's eyes widened in disbelief. "No way! It's an exclusive event! You can't get in without an invitation!"

Merissa shrugged, turning to leave. But after a few steps, she glanced back, saying with a hint of pride, "Oh? Well then... let's just wait and see."

As Merissa pulled up to the office, she was surprised to find Richard standing at the entrance.

Richard hadn't expected to run into Merissa there.

Today, Merissa was wearing a lavender dress, her hair elegantly tied up, revealing a swan-like neck. She looked effortlessly chic, her mysterious allure amplified by the sunglasses hiding her eyes.

Even Richard had to admit that she looked stunning.

Seeing the documents in Merissa's hand, he asked, "Are you here to apply for a job?"

He mistook the documents for a resume.

Merissa didn't want to reveal her identity just yet, so she didn't deny it and just nodded.

The mystery had to unfold gradually to be fun.

"Merissa, do you regret it?" Richard blurted out, his

question seeming to come out of nowhere.

Merissa frowned. What was he up to now?

"If you hadn't insisted on divorcing, you'd still be my wife, lounging around at home every day,

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shopping, tending to flowers, without having to work as hard as you do now. You've been out of the workforce for years; it's tough out there."

Richard meant it. He knew how tough it was for inexperienced job seekers like Merissa.

Merissa didn't deny Richard's words, nor did she care. She wasn't as fragile as Richard presumed

her to be."

Merissa smiled, "Mr. Adler, you still don't get it, do you? Makes sense. For the three years we were married, you've been in love with Maddie, not me. But it doesn't matter now. Since we're divorced, my life is none of your business."

Without waiting for his response, Merissa walked past him.

"Uh... Ms. Narth, right?" When Kurt came downstairs and saw Merissa, he was about to call her "president" but was stopped by her glance. Seeing Richard, Kurt immediately caught on.

"Yes, I'm Merissa Narth." Merissa handed him the document folder, putting on a show of being a job seeker.

Kurt played along and even improvised. "Ms. Narth, I'm the president's assistant. I'm glad you could make it. The executives are all waiting for you. This way, please."

The president's assistant personally came to pick up Merissa?

Richard was somewhat surprised.

When did Merissa become such a force to be reckoned with?

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And what about him?

Was he now just nobody to her?

Richard watched in confusion. He couldn't help but look at Merissa again, a weird feeling creeping in.

And the next moment, several flashes went off in the distance, capturing Merissa and Richard together.



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