

## Chapter 1005 A Banquet Of The Rich

Two days later, the big banquet arranged by the Wilson family happened just as planned.

The banquet hall was grand and solemn, showing off the Wilson family's high status.

Before it officially started, many guests had already arrived, hoping to impress those with higher status and gain favors for themselves and their families.

Among the crowd was Kaley, the beloved daughter of the Wilson family, surrounded by admirers.

Kaley smiled as a group of people complimented her on her beautiful dress and elegant appearance. She tried to act humble, but inside, she was glowing with satisfaction, enjoying the attention from the crowd.

Suddenly, there was a noise at the door, drawing everyone's attention.

People around the door made way for a newcomer, asking, "Where is she from? I've never seen her before!"

Someone explained, "It's normal you don't know her. She's not from Zodiac. She was well-known in Vagow."

As Loraine's achievements were talked about, everyone looked at her in surprise.

They had to admit that some people were just too favored by

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# +120 Points at most

fate, like Loraine, with her flawless beauty and exceptional talent.

At that moment, surrounded by the crowd's gaze, Loraine wore an ocean blue dress, her long hair tied up, revealing her slender neck. She smiled gracefully.

Her blue dress was adorned with lifelike butterflies as if they were about to take flight from the blue flowers.

Loraine looked like an enchanting fairy, outshining Cayson beside her.

Everyone was amazed, and the praises for Kaley faded.

Kaley noticed everyone's attention had shifted to Loraine. Resentment filled her eyes, but she kept her composure.

One of the debutantes nearby couldn't help but say, "Who is she? She's so beautiful!"

It was only then that the debutantes realized they had forgotten about Kaley. They quickly reprimanded the girl who spoke to maintain their image in Kaley's mind.

Kaley sneered to herself but pretended to be kind. "I can't match her maturity. Look at the man next to her, he seems like her follower, not her male companion, right?"

The debutante, trying to redeem herself, said, "She must be flirty! Who knows how many men she's charmed to act like this? Kaley, you're noble; you don't need to compete with her!"

Just as she finished, an angry voice came from behind. "How dare you speak ill of others behind their back?"

They turned to see who it was and the person who was about to retaliate immediately stopped.



It was Aria, the daughter of the Cruz family, the wealthiest family in town, even the Wilson family didn't dare to mess with them.

Although it was known in Zodiac that the Cruz family had found their son, putting the daughter, who was supposed to inherit the family business, in an awkward position, no one dared to upset Aria.

When Kaley saw it was Aria, her expression turned cold, but she didn't dare to say anything. After all, Aria was more important than her.

Besides, everyone knew Aria was sickly and couldn't even stand a gust of wind. If she caused any harm to Aria, the Cruz family would make her regret it.

But she couldn't let it go, especially since both of the Cruz siblings favored Loraine!

With a smirk, Kaley looked Aria up and down, then pretended to be kind, saying, "Aria, it's been a while since you've been to a banquet, hasn't it? That dress doesn't quite fit you. How about I arrange for someone to make you a new one?"

Aria wore a dress tightened at the waist, but because Clifford had made her stay in bed and the medicine had taken effect, her once slender body had become a bit fuller, with some extra weight around her waist.

Someone behind Kaley whispered, "Aria has gotten much bigger. No wonder her dress doesn't fit!"

Hearing this, many people chuckled and looked away.

Aria's face flushed with embarrassment. She stood there awkwardly, unsure of what to do.

Just then, a gentle hand reached out to her.

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When she looked up, she saw Loraine smiling kindly at her. Loraine took the silk scarf from around her neck and tied it around Aria's waist in a bow, saying with a smile, "Here, it's a 'butterfly' just for you."

Aria's face lit up, and she exclaimed, "Lorrie!"

Loraine comforted her with a gentle pat on the hand. But when she turned to glance at the debutantes, her expression turned slightly cold.

"Aria has just recovered from a serious illness. It's normal for her to gain some weight. And as for the person who just spoke, your tone is so sharp. Didn't your family educate you properly?"

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## Chapter 1006 Back Her Up

When Loraine walked into the hall, she immediately noticed Kaley and her friends, with Aria looking visibly upset and amid an argument. She even caught someone laughing at Aria.

Loraine had once saved Aria's life, making their bond incredibly strong. She couldn't fathom why anyone would mock Aria, and she certainly wouldn't stand for it.

Loraine was a protective soul, so she didn't worry about the rich ladies' status and spoke freely!

The girl who had laughed at Aria earlier turned a fiery red. How could she endure such a humiliation? With red eyes, she glared at Loraine and turned to look at Kaley angrily, hoping that Kaley would stand up for her.

Kaley's eyes narrowed, her jealousy no longer concealable.

She was unaware that Loraine had once saved Aria's life in Vagow. Yet, seeing Aria, who was typically distant to others and so close to Loraine, sparked resentment in Kaley.

What had Loraine done to win them over? Why did both Marco and Aria hold her in such high regard?

Kaley, trying to mask her jealousy, forced a smile and said, "It's wonderful that Aria is well again. Nina, please apologize to Aria."

Nina was stunned but soon realized that Kaley intended to blame everything on her.

Though seething with anger inside, Nina suppressed it, offering a forced apology to Aria before retreating behind Kaley.

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## +120 Points at most

However, she couldn't help but shift the blame onto Loraine with a vicious glare.

Loraine, unfazed by Nina's glare, smiled. She took Aria's hand, preparing to leave.

But then Kaley interrupted her and acted like they were close friends, asking, "Hey Loraine, you know how crazy I am about Alice. Since you're Alice, could you sing for everyone at the party later?"

Everyone turned to look at Loraine in amazement. Some quick thinkers in the group seized the moment and echoed Kaley's suggestion, "Loraine, sing for us! Kaley is a member of the Wilson family who held this party. She wants you to sing at the party. You wouldn't turn her down, would you?"

The invite sounded okay, but Loraine was just another guest at the party, while everyone else was a prominent figure.

Inviting the respected CEO of the Universe Group to put on a show and entertain everyone? It felt more like an insult than something to be proud of.

Loraine understood Kaley's intentions and wasn't about to play along.

She gave Kaley a cool look and said softly, "If I remember correctly, I was invited here as a guest to this banquet. This is the first time I've ever heard that guests need to showcase a talent at a Wilson family event. Is this a typical rule for your family gatherings?"

Feeling Loraine's piercing gaze, Kaley experienced a sudden unease. However, with her plan laid bare, she couldn't confess her intentions to embarrass Loraine. She reluctantly managed to say, "Of course not. But now that you attended our family's banquet, wouldn't you agree that it's respectful to honor such a request, Miss Torres?"



Loraine nodded thoughtfully and responded genuinely, "Maybe I'm uninformed. I've never encountered a family requesting a performance before. I'm not sure what kind of performance would meet the expectations of your invitation. Maybe you or some other ladies could demonstrate for me first?"

Kaley's expression grew darker, and Nina, feeling Loraine's stare. became incensed. She burst out, "I'm here to attend the banquet, not to amuse the attendees. Why would I perform?"

Once they heard that, the whole crowd went silent, and Kaley's face changed to look more serious in a flash.

Nina wasn't here to entertain. Nor was Loraine, right? If Kaley continued to insist that Loraine perform, it would reflect poorly on her.

With a gentle smile, Loraine nodded in agreement. Grasping Aria's hand, she turned to Kaley and cheerfully said, "Miss Wilson, I appreciate your invitation, but wealth alone isn't enough to request a song from me."

Kaley's face stiffened as she watched them walk away. She then gave Nina a chilling look.

Nina shuddered, realizing she had inadvertently sabotaged Kaley's plans. Kaley resumed her usual soft demeanor and said regretfully, "Did Loraine misunderstand me? I simply wanted to hear Alice sing. That's really too bad!"

The other ladies sighed in relief and then criticized Loraine. Jaylah approached, greeted everyone warmly, and escorted Kaley away.

Once they were alone, Kaley let her frustration show and said bitterly, "When will I get to see Loraine embarrass herself?"

Jaylah gently patted her daughter's hand and assured her, "Don't worry. I've taken care of everything, and I'm certain that

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