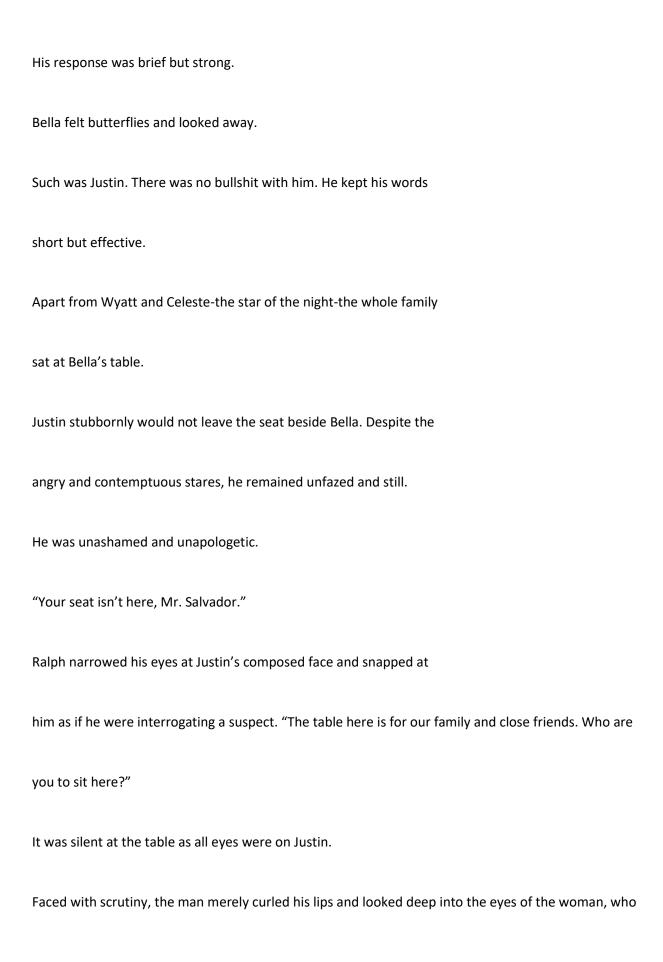


Bella ground her teeth, her eyes welling up. "If you expect me to believe that you'll stay away from
women, that is when pigs fly."
Ryan furrowed his brows, lost for words.
It felt to him as if Carrie was Justin and Bella's daughter, while he was her boyfriend, whom they
disapproved of.
"Justin, Bella!"
Carrie walked up and stood firmly in front of Ryan, her face flushed
with anxiety. "Don't say that about Ryan. It was me. I wanted to be with Ryan."
Justin and Bella were shocked.
Ryan teared up as his heart pounded out of his chest.
He spread his arms apart from behind and held Carrie, resting his chin on top of her head. With the girl
clinging to her teddy, th ked like a family of three.
"I'll drop you off at Grandpa Nigel's place after the party, okay, Carrie?" Bella looked into Carrie's clear
eyes and asked softly.

Carrie bit her lips and hung her head low.
Bella was taken aback and sighed. "Do you really want to be with him?" Chapter 662
"Carrie slowly looked up, her clear eyes meeting Bella's gaze.
She did not say one word.
However, Bella could read the answer in Carrie's eyes.
"It's not every day Carrie falls for a boy and stands her ground for him, Bella. Just give her a break. If
being with Ryan makes her happy and comfortable, let them get along and see where it takes them."
Justin looked over and offered words of comfort with a hint of
pleading in her ear.
"I can tell that Carrie has feelings for him. I'm not trying to break them
1. I just " Bella met his eyes.
"I get it. I understand."
Justin let out an understanding smile. His usual stoic expression
beamed only for her. "But don't forget that Carrie has you and m





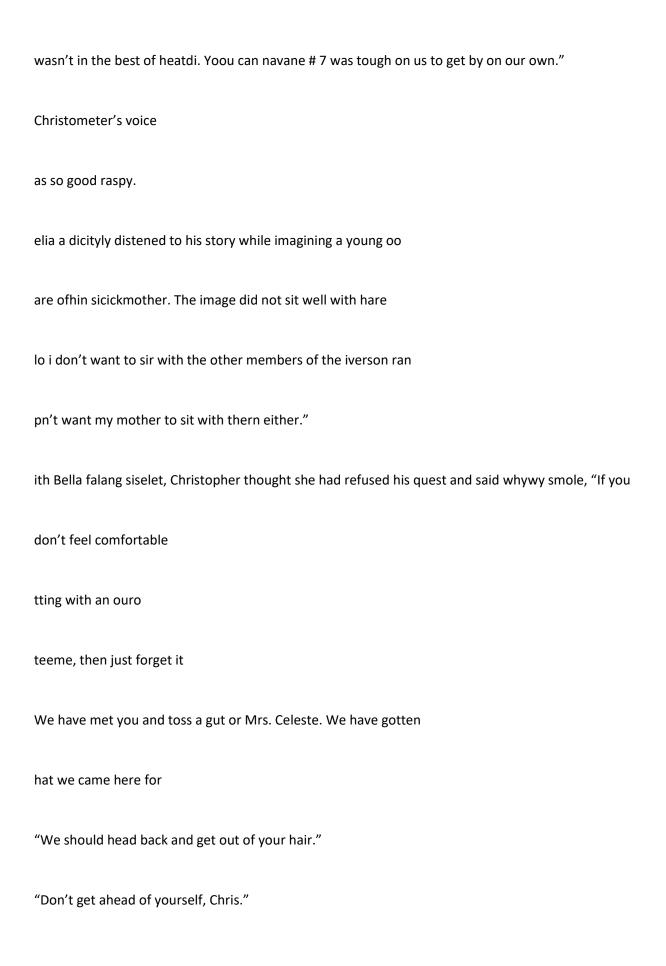


Without another word, Bella got up and went outside the hall with
Steven.
With the warmth of the love of his life gone, Justin felt bitter and
clutched the glass in his hand, his veins showing. Chapter 663
he banquet ailel mall. Christopher was not overdressed dikekebis onight, the workle wore a dark gray
tailored suit and combad nisis His gole manic rimmed glasses added a bookworm took to nisis
eves.
hy don't we go hang home? in scared." Timid, Sophie tugged omn
er's sleeve eve
plied her up tonight.cich, plating her in a valuable fuchsia dress à a touch of class with esiti: a million-
dollar hairpiece in her
s updo.
pre a matching pearl necklacecklace and earrings, but the pearl it, more expensive than dianan
diamonds, was custom-made for

amily of Sentania.anis
he only family for Christopher topher.
stopher wanted only the best for hin mo this mother.
tenderly at his mother and held berhanter hand tight. "Don't
prn. I'm here."
ought you here tonight to see Bella. Weren' wotent your just talking yesterday? I thought you missed
ner. Well, you've to get to see
I want to see Bella."
Chiiret KEL
Sophie's eyes lit up, and she cried, "Bella! It's Bella!"
Christopher turned around as Bella approached. Tearing up, he curled
his lips.
"Bella."
"Mrs. Iverson."

Bella went up to hold Sophie's hand with a bright smile. "I wasn't expecting you, but it makes me so happy to see you." "I'm so happy to see you, Bella." Fond of Bella, Sophie gave her a big hug before grabbing a handful of chocolate bonbons from her clutch to give to Bella. "Here you go. I remember you love chocolate, so I brought you some." "Thank you for keeping me in your thoughts, Mrs. Iverson." Feeling touched, Bella cupped the chocolate in her hands. That was the type of person Bella was. She had seen too much of life, both the good and the bad. Instead of grand gestures, it was the simple things in life that she was grateful for. "You're so beautiful today," Bella complimented. "R-Really?" Sophie blushed like a teenager. "My son chose the outfit for me. I





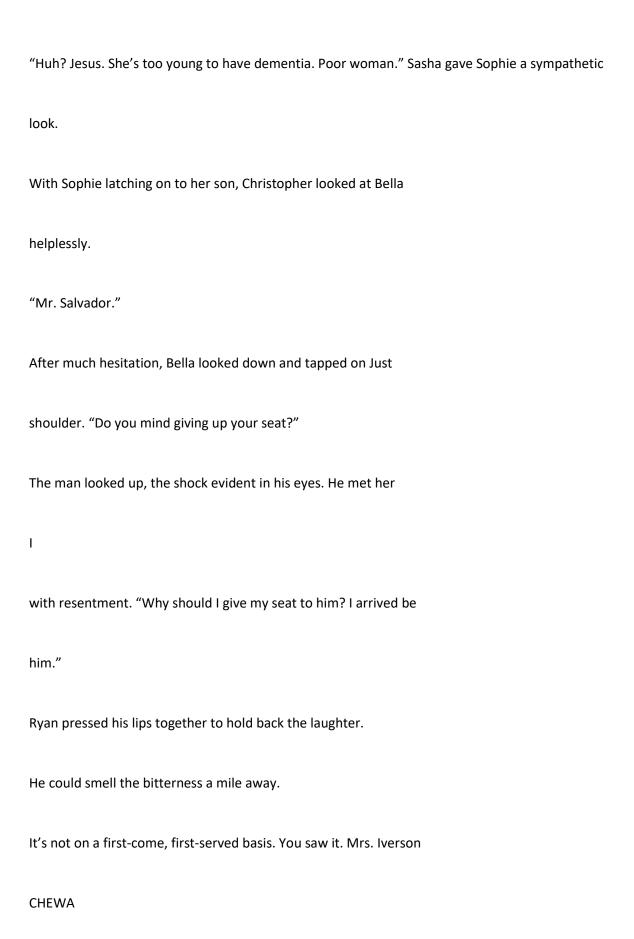
At that point, Bella could not possibly say no. She said tenderly,
Come on. We can eat together. It's just a get-together with my family. Make yourselves at home." Chapter 664
Christopher was filled with joy, and it showed on his face. "Thank you,
Bella."
Bella led Christopher and Sophie into the hall.
"Look, James. It's that woman." Charles pointed at the door in
surprise.
James swirled his wine glass and looked up callously.
His brows furrowed when he saw Christopher enjoying a good laugh
with Bella.
"Christopher seems close with Bella."
"Tsk, I bet he's all over her."
Charles gnashed his teeth and kept a close eye on Christophe gulping down a mouthful of wine.
"Christopher is such a bitch."

"He can't stop sucking up to Ms. Bella. If they do end up together,
would have him wrapped around her little finger."
Coral looked at Charles in disdain, finding her brother-in-law
distasteful. He did not behave like a gentleman at all.
"Wasn't Dad interested in setting you up with Bella?"
James raised his brow in ridicule. "At this rate, your future wife will become your sister-in-law."
Chappiest
"I'm not a whore to bend over backward for Bella like Christopher."
Charles found the behavior beneath him.
"If you hang around her, you can become a billionaire's son-in-law. Why can't you do it to increase your
net worth?" James asked in a flat
tone.
Taken aback, Charles pursed his lips.
"If you don't work hard at it, all our efforts will be for nothing, Charles."

James leaned toward Charles and said grimacingly in his ear, "If Christopher does marry Bella, Chairman Thompson's favorite daughter, he will turn the tables on us and become our biggest rival. Christopher has always been a threat to you. It must kill you to see him make it big." Charles stared at James as menace flickered in his eyes. Bella led Christopher and Sophie to her family. "Oh, Mrs. Iverson. You're back from Sentania. Long time, no s Mila and Sasha stood up to welcome Sophie, extending the etiquette as Wyatt's wives. "Who are they?" Sophie stared blankly at her son. "Mom, they are Mila and Sasha, Chairman Wyatt's wives. These fe people here are Bella's siblings. This is Mr. Ryan Hoffman, and the lovely lady next to him is Ms. Carrie Salvador." Christopher patiently introduced the group to his mother. Ryan did not see eye to eye with Christopher, but his kind words for

Carrie eased the tension between his brows. Nothing ever pleased him before, but now Ryan was content with the little things. With Asher taking the lead, the group rose to their feet in al demonstration of their manners. Even though the Thompson brothers had a problem with Christopher, they would not convey their animosity in a public setting. Only Justin sat there with a long face, his eyes darting a chilling glare at Christopher. His body was tense with rage. Christopher left him out of the introductions. It was an act of aggression to dismiss him. "Wow. There are so many of you." Sophie looked worriedly at Christopher. "I can't remember so many names. What should I do?"

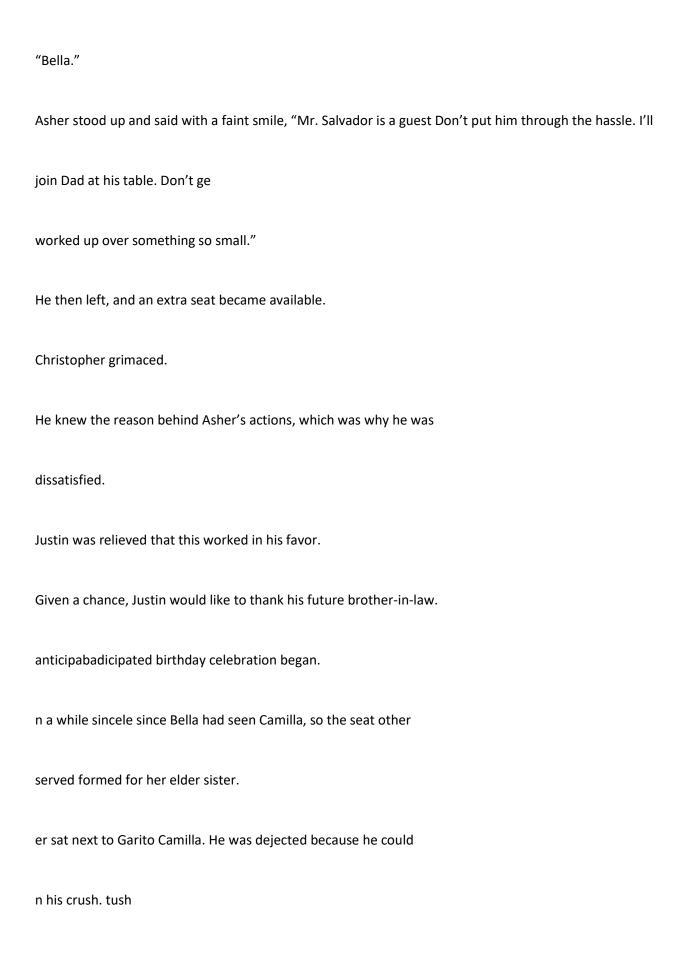




doesn't want to be apart from her son. I hope they can sit with me, so I'm sorry, but you have to sit somewhere else." Bella did not want to be next to him anyway, and now she had an -TICALL excuse to shoo him away. "I have given it some thought, and I don't want anybody else to leave. It's best for you to give up your seat." Christopher held his mother and pushed his glasses up his nose bridge, smiling as he knew he had won. "No, I won't." Justin frowned, determined to stick his butt where it should be. "Alright. So you won't leave, huh? I'll go to Grandpa Nigel's table then." Bella was tempted to punch the bastard right there and then.

Justin panicked. There was no point in resisting if Bella was to leave,

so he tried to get up.



Mr. Iverson just ren just returned from Sentania. You should have a about." Beta lockers foored for conversational fillers, not wanting be awkward.vward. you lived in Sentanis antonio for a long time?" Camilla asked in 'Christopher replied with a swith a smile. less that makes you half osentha Sentanian now. You definitely: longer than I have. I got married narried and lived there for three he conversation going, Camilla Gstrede asked, "What do you er replied, "I have my own business piness in import and ex t you let us know what type of goods your corvmircompany trades n?" Justin asked indifferently.itly er clenched his fists under the table.fe ome trade secret, so it shouldn't be hard for you to an answer Justin narrowed his eyes at Christopher. "Maybe your business

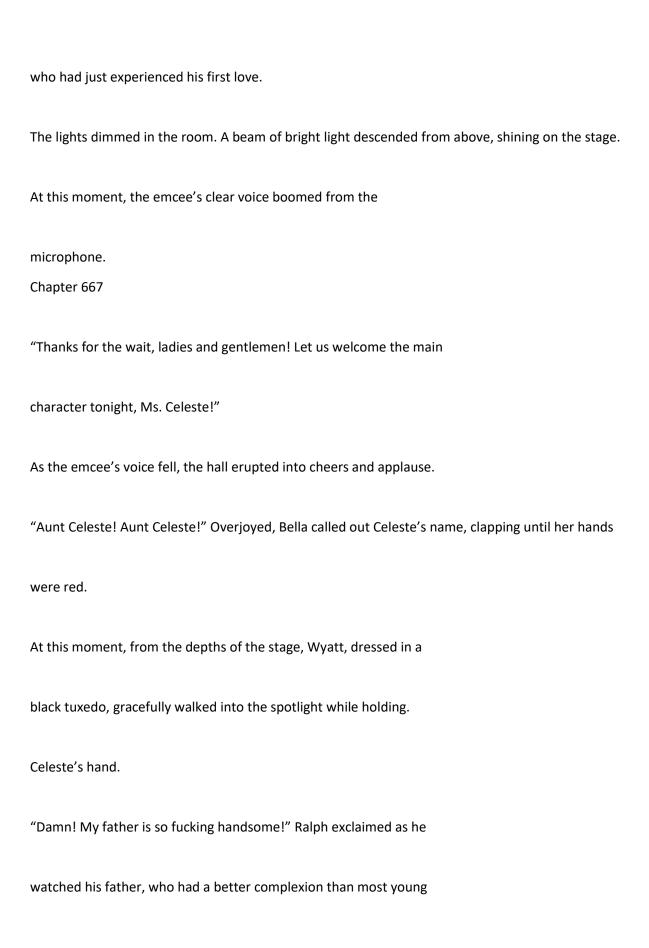


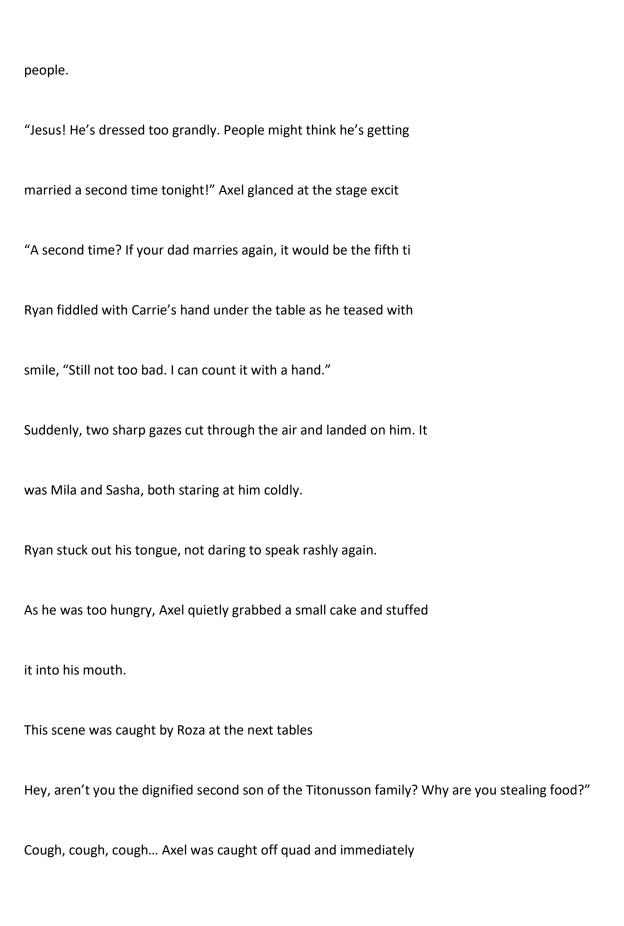


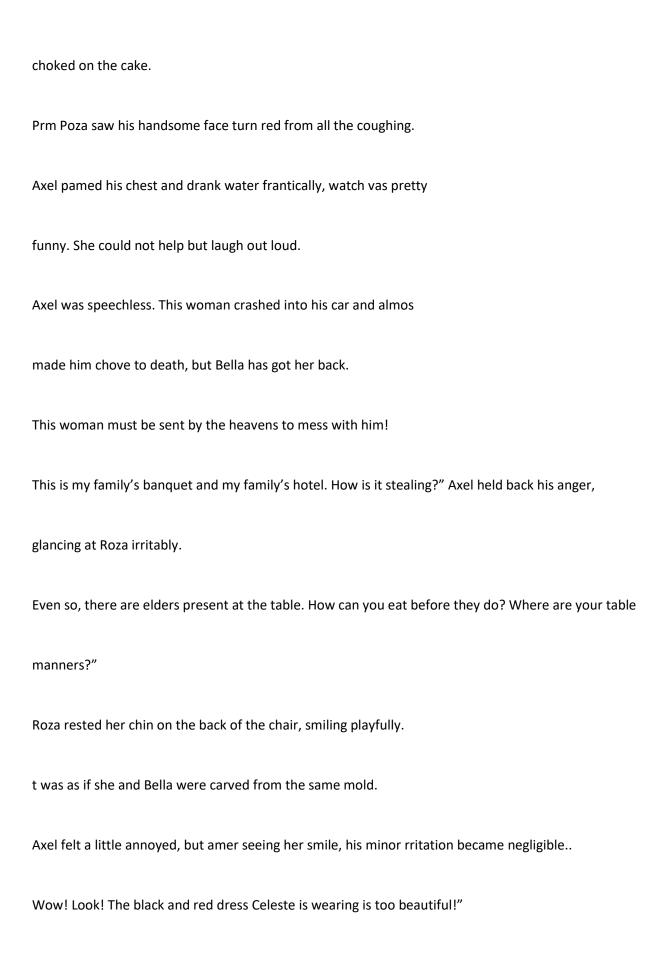
Caught in the middle, Camilla listened to both men going at each. other as she felt a gradual surge of
shock and excitement.
However, due to her identity as Bella's older sister and having held a high social status, she did not
dare to show it on the surface. She pressed her lips, suppressing her amusement.
Camilla thought, 'All this drama makes it more worth it to come back
home!'
"Justin, have you said enough?"
Bella could not bear it any longer. She glared fiercely at the man beside her and growled, "If you
continue with the nonsense, I
you out with a golf club!"
Justin's breath hitched, and his hand tightened into a grip on the ta
Then he slowly relaxed and moved his hand closer to her, touching her wrist gently with his fingertips.
His calloused finger rubbed against her delicate skin.
"Bella, I'm sorry Don't get mad at me, okay?"

He was handsome, clingy, and coaxing. Who could possibly resist this man? The warm feeling around her wrist was like vines entwining her, carrying a tingling sensation straight into her chest, circling and winding around her throbbing heart. Seeing that she did not speak, Justin panicked and leaned toward her. He coaxed with a hoarse voice, "You can vent your anger on me, but can we wait until we get back? I may not be much in your eyes, but I am still the president of Salvador Corporation. So many people are watching, so please save me some dignity." Camilla remained composed, but she was on the verge of bursting into laughter. Both sisters had a habit of eavesdropping on others. "Just shut up! I can't be bothered to hit you. You're made out of muscles!" Bella snorted, then turned around and ignored him. Justin's affectionate gaze fixed on her pouting and rosy lips, feeling a fire burning in his heart. He was already thirty years old, yet his emotions would still be swayed by this woman's smile and

words, as if he were a teen







For real! I noticed it when she came out stole my breath away!"
Almost every guest focused on Celeste, their gaze attracted by the dress she wore, causing sighs of
admiration everywhere.
Justin also glanced at Celeste, and his pupils shrank in surprise.
Wasn't the dress she wore the one designed by Bella in Roza's studio
that day?
"OMG Did my eyes deceive me?"
Someone suddenly stood up from their seat and exclaimed, "Isn't this a masterpiece from Sharon?"
"What?! It's Sharon?!"
"Holy shit! I can't believe I get to see a dress designed by Sharon in
real life! I can die with no regrets now." Chapter 668
"I really want to touch it!"
"As expected of the prestigious Thompson family! Sharon hasn't made an appearance for years, but
she designed this birthday dress for Celeste! This shows the status of Chairman Thompson. Look at

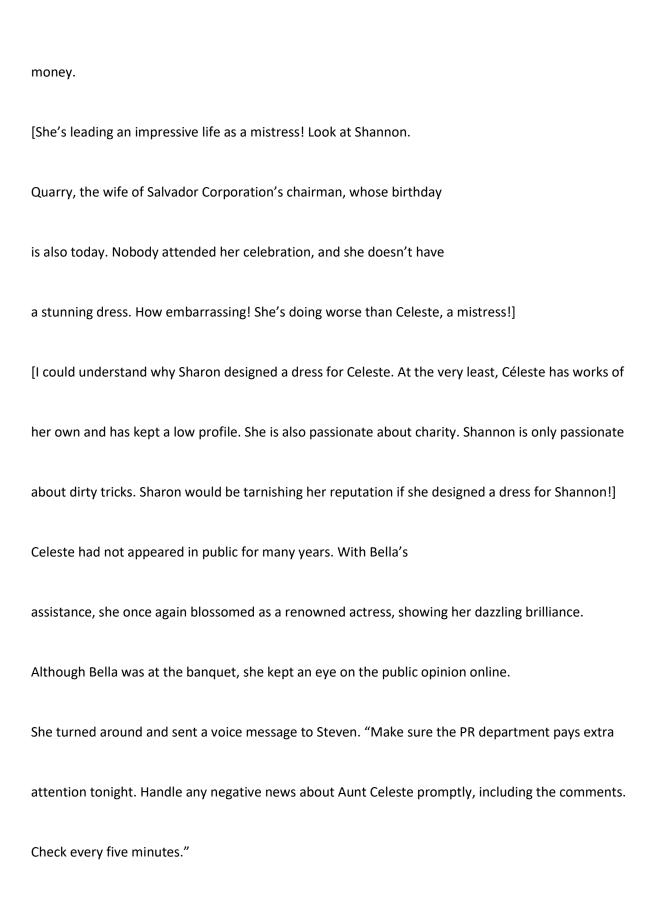
that woman from the Salvador family, who is also celebrating her birthday tonight. I reckon that even if
she kneels before Sharon, Sharon would probably still refuse to design for her!"
Justin's eyes widened in surprise. He turned his head and looked at
Bella, who was smiling faintly.
His eyes carried sparks of shock and admiration!
It turned out that Bella was Sharon.
Not only was she Alexa, but she was also Sharon!
Justin's breath became hotter, and his chest rose. His nerves were
paralyzed, as if struck by lightning.
How could one person have so many skills at the same time and
excel in every single one of them to the point that they could amaze
the world?
His wife was not human. She was a goddess!
Bella felt Justin's scorching gaze and turned towards



clean silk cloth and cherishing it like a precious treasure. Her feelings while preparing these gifts for him in the past feelings while preserving them carefully now were the same. his It was a pity that he had not realized sooner... "Forget it. You never cared about who I was in the past, and you d care about my talents either. The gifts that I gave you, just like n were accumulating dust." Bella watched the show on the stage, feeling an indescribable sorrow in her heart. "Bella, I wronged you back then and let you go. But now, I swear, I'll do everything to make it up to you and never wrong you again." Justin took a deep breath and spoke sincerely, even wishing to offer up his heart on a silver platter. "I know it's difficult for you to give me a second chance, and you probably don't even want to. But I won't give up. I will keep persisting until my heart stops beating." "Justin, there are words and phrases in the world used to express regret and sorrow, which I think

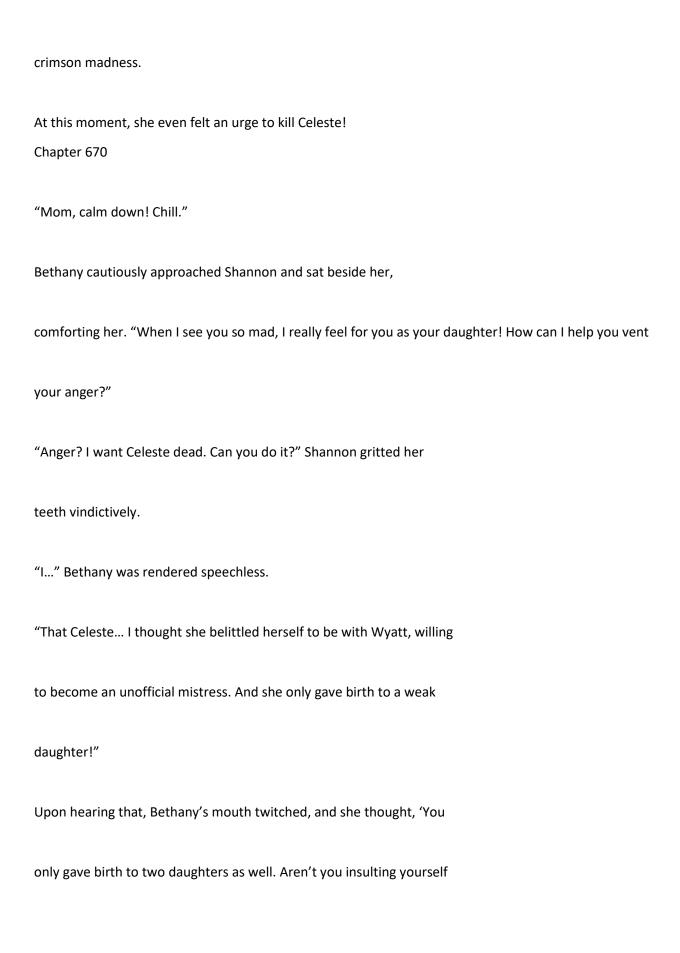


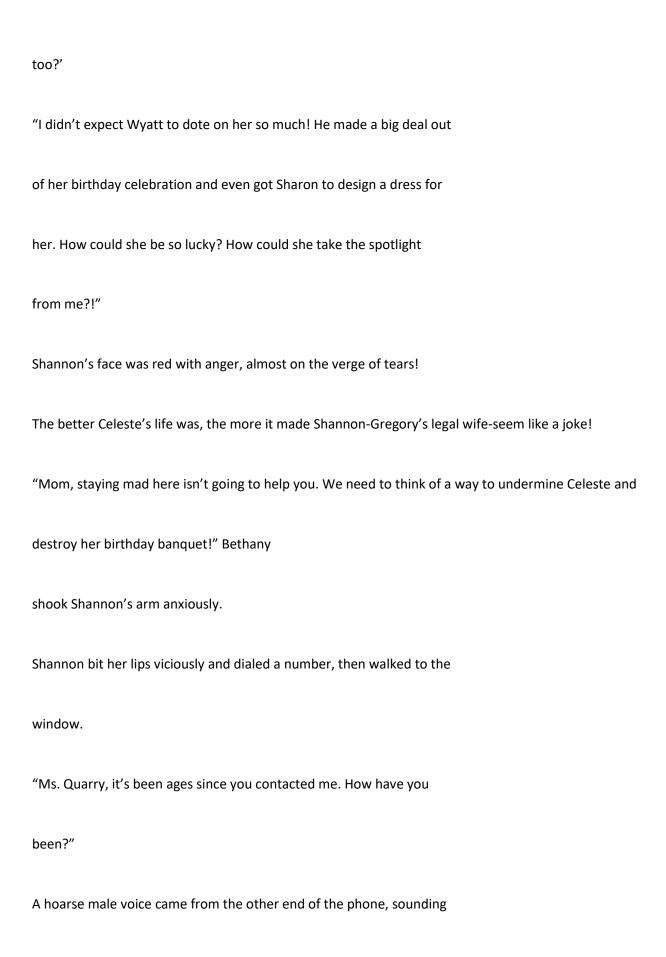


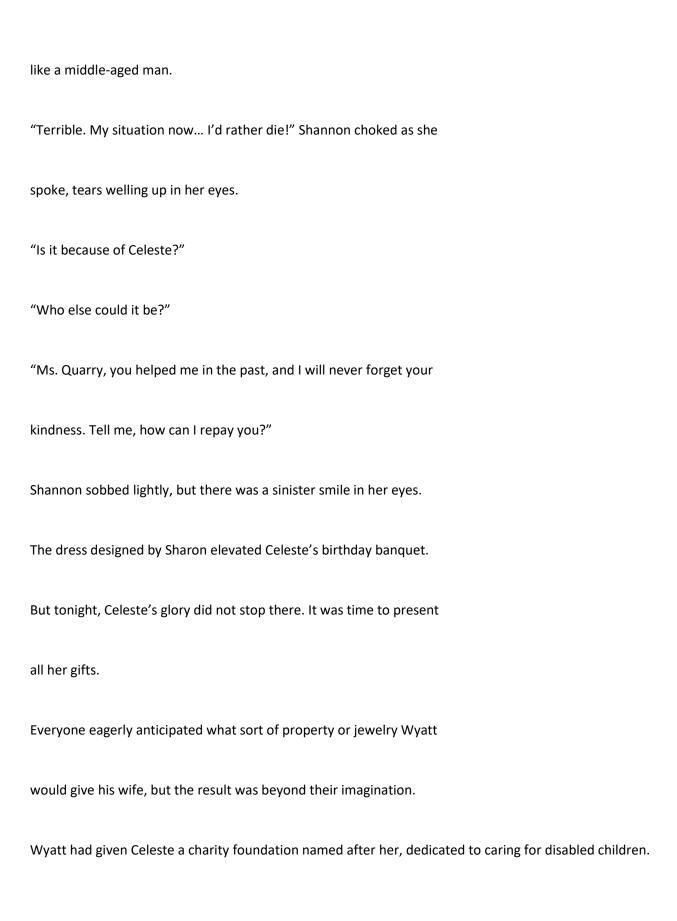


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"Yes, Ms. Bella."
"Also, I don't care what method you use, but don't let the hype
down for now."
Steven thought about it. "But Chairman Thompson and Celes
to keep a low profile tonight, only celebrating at the banquet
don't want to overdo it."
Bella sighed. They had underestimated Sharon's influence.
Whenever Sharon designed clothes for someone or when her pieces appeared in a fashion week, it
would undoubtedly create tremendous
waves.
The people in the jewelry industry regarded Alexa as a deity. The
same goes for Sharon in the fashion industry!
Since the gown Sharon designed for Celeste had appeared in public, it was impossible to suppress the
discussions. In that case, it would be better to go with it and let Celeste have a grand birthday
celebration,
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Furthermore, Celeste was named the president of this charity
foundation.
Bella could not help but reveal a contented smile. She knew that the women of the Thompson family
were different from typical ladies of
wealthy families.
In the Thompson family, no one was interested in money or jewelry
except for Bella and Wyatt.
Compared to a stunning diamond, Wyatt's charity foundation was a gift that touched Celeste's heart.
Throughout the years, she had been making time to volunteer at orphanages and had been secretly
using – her savings to help children in need.
She did these privately, thinking that Wyatt was unaware of them.
Surprisingly, Wyatt knew and had prepared everything for her, merely waiting for this day to reveal the
big surprise.
"Celeste, I know that you have always been passionate about charity
and have anonymously helped countless children in orphanages. After thinking about it, I thought this



"Wow!"