

Honey You're a Billionaire Chapter 51

Chapter 51 Your Eyes Look Just Like Hers

Rose drove all night long to Chereton, where she managed to find the house according to the address the

next morning.

The door was open when she arrived, and a middle-aged woman sat outside in the courtyard sewing. She was surprised to see Rose.

“Hi there, are you Mdm. Angelica?” Rose asked gently.

Angelica Willis swiftly set her sewing down and walked up to Rose.

She looked at her long and hard before saying. “You’re so big now, Rose. I held you when you were a baby, do you remember? Oh, you must’ve forgotten about me already.”

Angelica gazed fixedly at Rose’s face, then exclaimed, “Your eyes... you look just like her!”

Miles had said her eyes resembled someone else’s the other day, too. Knowing now that Angelica meant her mother, she beamed happily, feeling closely affectionate to the older woman.

Angelica told Rose all about her mother, and then handed her an old box. Inside was a large chunk of raw fire opal.

“Your mother left this behind decades ago. Take it. I have no use for it anyway.”

Rose was stunned. She could use this opal to craft a necklace for the jewelry-design competition. It was a beautiful specimen and would surely make heads turn

But then again her mother had left this behind, and now that Angelica had given it to her, Rose couldn’t just take it without giving anything in return.

So she decided she would give Angelica some money before leaving. The latter was a hobby jewelry maker herself, hence she had the tools necessary in the yard.

Rose started crafting the next morning. Watching her deeply focused on her work, Angelica was reminded of Celeste from all those years ago.

There suddenly came a knocking on the front door. Angelica stood up and went to the gate. There was a man outside – Miles Young. Angelica narrowed her eyes cautiously.

Before she could say anything, however, he asked, "Does a woman named Henrietta Willis—live here? Or do you maybe know anyone by that name?"

Angelica masked her shock at the mention of that name. Henrietta Willis was Celeste's name before she changed it a long time ago.

"No. Never heard of it!"

Angelica swiftly shut the door, worried Rose might be disturbed all the way in the yard.

Disappointment flared in Miles' eyes. He had sworn he would find Henrietta after his grandfather instructed him to, yet after following his one possible lead here, it'd abruptly ended just like that.

Rose ended up spending two days finishing the necklace. It was just as beautiful as she'd imagined it! "You do have your mother's talent," Angelica mumbled as she gazed at the necklace.

+15 BONUS

Rose decided she would leave the next morning, so she decided to learn more about her mother during dinner. She spoke with Angelica as the two ate.

All of a sudden, Rose began feeling tired. She thought it might have been because of her continuous crafting for the past two days.

"Your mother truly was blessed with talent and luck, you know that?" Angelica suddenly said. "So incredibly lucky it was unbearable. As for you, those eyes of yours do nothing but remind me of her wretched presence!"

Dizziness swept over Rose.

"What are you talking about, Mdm. Angelica?"

"Thank you for turning this chunk of opal into such a fine piece of jewelry. I'm sure it'll fetch a good price!" Angelica sneered as she took out the jewelry from Rose's purse as well as her design sketches.

"No..."

Rose tried to stop her, but was swept with a wave of lethargy so strong, she passed out. When she next awoke, it was 4:00 AM.

Angelica was nowhere to be found in the house. As Rose recalled what had transpired, she suddenly pieced something together.

“It was him!

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Chapter 52 Stealing Her Jewelry for Kelly

Rose immediately called Jamie’s number.

The moment it went through, she cried angrily, “You told Mdm. Angelica to do this, didn’t you? All just to steal my design – did you use such pathetic tricks just because you were afraid I’d win the award?!”

Jamie sneered and hung up the call.

He’d thought Rose would lose at the entry stage of the competition and use that as an excuse to deny her inheritance of Celeste Jewels.

Unexpectedly, she ended up making it to the finals, and her designs were even secretly doted on by those in the Young family. That’s why he devised this scheme to ensure Rose’s loss in the competition.

Now Angelica had gotten her hands on the necklace!

Jamie smirked gleefully and said to Chelsea beside him, “Kelly won’t have to worry about the competition now. She’ll be using Rose’s design to participate. When she wins first place, I’ll make sure she’s equipped with the necessary flair before establishing her as a nationwide master jeweler! If she catches the eye of the Young’s House of Jewels, it’ll be all the better!”

Chelsea said worriedly, “But what if Rose causes a scene at the finals? What if she tarnishes Kelly’s reputation...”

“We’ll just have to make sure she doesn’t make it there! Jamie then made a call with his phone.

Rose drove all night back to Aquastead. She knew Jamie had his grudges against her, but he never expected him to stoop so low all so she’d be prevented from taking over Celeste Jewels!

She wasn’t going to just sit back and wait now that she’d lost her jewelry. There were still three days to the finals, so retrieving her jewelry was nigh impossible.

She could only hope to make another piece before the finals. On the car ride back, Rose took out some paper and began re-drawing the original necklace design she’d made.

Kelly suddenly called, to which Rose picked up.

“Thank you so much, Rose. Dad said you’d be making me a one-of-a-kind piece of jewelry, and it just so happens that I haven’t created a piece for the National Jewelry Design Award. I can use the piece you made instead, right? Hehe...”

Kelly was delighted, trying to goad Rose. Kelly had sworn she would take away everything Rose had.

Her initial worry that she might lose to Rose had long faded after her father unexpectedly came up with the idea of stealing Rose’s jewelry so she could use it herself.

“He loves you so... Rose murmured sarcastically, though it felt like hot knives were cutting into her heart.

She shakily hung up the call and looked back down at her design sketch. There was no point making this again, but she wasn’t going to just give up!

Rose took a deep breath and tore out the sketch before turning to a new page. She was going to sketch a new design.

She used the pen as a tool to vent out her undying rage and sadness into the paper, finally creating a new design in less than an hour. Rose then left a small flame symbol in the corner.

It was the signature she used when she drew her designs under her alias ‘Ms. Flora’, but time was of the essence and she couldn’t be bothered to redraw.

So she hurriedly scribbled her name underneath the symbol. Just then, the loud blaring of car horns sounded in her ear. Rose looked up, meeting the striking lights of a truck that was racing right at them.

With a loud bang and crash, the car swerved to the side, and Rose swiftly lost consciousness.

Honey You’re a Billionaire Chapter 53

Chapter 53 Who’d Dare Ban

His Woman?

Jonathan received a call from Rose early at 6:00 AM. He recalled how she’d mentioned she would be preparing for the National Jewelry Design Award in Chereton a couple of days ago.

It'd been days since then. Did she finally remember him? When Jonathan called, it was a man who picked it up.

"Are you her husband? She's been in a car accident and is currently here in Aquasteed General Hospital."

With that, the call ended. Jonathan's heart skipped as he called the number again. But the phone had shut off this time. He drove first thing to the hospital to look for Rose.

When he arrived, she'd just finished surgery and was resting in a ward, looking extremely pale.

"Are you family? She's lucky to still be alive after such a gruesome accident. Else the blood loss would've killed her," a nurse said softly. She then handed a blood-soaked notepad to Jonathan. "She was clutching tight onto this when they sent her in. It must be really important to her."

Jonathan looked at the notepad and saw a design for jewelry under the dark red stains. He'd seen Rose's design before, and it wasn't this one. What happened in the past few days?

Who was the man that had answered her phone earlier?

Jonathan had Finley check the hospital surveillance cameras and was then reported that the man who'd answered Rose's call was the same man who'd sent her to the ER.

The man didn't seem to want his identity to be found out, however, so he hid his face throughout his time

in the hospital. There were only two days left from the competition finale.

All participants arrived in Regalia early on to take photos with the judges at the competition site to promote it online.

Everyone had been present except for one of the judges, Jonathan Finch, and a participant, Rose Shaffer.

"Mr. Finch just needs to turn up during the finale. He doesn't need to be bothered with something as trivial as advertisements!"

"Yeah! He earns a couple million dollars each minute. But what about that participant, Rose Shaffer? Even Ezra's showed up for the photos – does Rose think she's some bigshot to not attend?"

The netizens were engaged in heated discussions.

Meanwhile, in one of Regalia's finest hotels, Kelly was snickering gleefully as she read all their comments. She'd heard about Rose's accident and consequent surgery.

At this rate, there was no way Rose would show up for the finals!

Kelly then logged into her burner account and tagged several bigshots in the jewelry industry, writing. Someone who disrespects the competition and the jewelry industry should be banned!"—

Afterward, she paid some ghostwriters to help propagate her post. Soon, the tag #BanRoseShaffer became viral all over the internet.

Rose remained unconscious in the hospital while Finley was alerted by the viral hashtag. He quickly showed Jonathan this.

"Sir, look..."

A dangerous gleam appeared in Jonathan's eyes for a moment before disappearing. Ban Rose Shaffer? Who dared ban his woman? Jonathan turned his gaze to Rose's stained notepad.

"There's no need to give up on the competition now when she's already drawn out her design," he sneered.

He'd agreed to judge in the competition all because of Rose in the first place. If Rose couldn't go to Regalia personally, he would make the organizer host the competition in Aquastead!

"Tell the Young family and the organizers to change the competition site from Regalia to Aquastead. We will fulfill all demands so long as they approve this change!" Jonathan instructed.

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Chapter 54 Miss!

Finley immediately got to work. Soon, news of the site change spread online.

The competition organizer released an announcement "The National Jewelry Design Award competition will be hosted in Aquastead instead of Regalia this year!"

Ten minutes later, Ezra made a post with his photo. Underneath was the caption: "I heard Aquastead is a place you never want to leave once you set foot in it. Why don't we check it out?"

Another ten minutes passed, and all the heavy players in the jewelry industry had acquiesced to the site change without argument.

Kelly soon returned to Aquastead and headed to the hospital where Rose was.

When she saw Rose alone in the ward, still unconscious on the bed, she sneered, "Poor thing. Did no one

come to check up on you?"

The nurse happened to overhear her and walked inside.

"Ms. Shaffer has been taken care of by her husband since yesterday. He... must've been busy today. I didn't see him return after leaving this morning."

"Pit."

The husband that works as a bouncer outside a bar? Kelly rolled her eyes.

She waited until the nurse left before whispering to her sister, "You need to hurry and wake up, Rose. Otherwise, you'll miss out on watching me win first place in the competition. You are about to have your reputation ruined, and I'm not the only one who's been buying off people to write shit about you. Looks like you have more enemies than you think!"

Kelly left afterward, filled with delight. She didn't notice the twitch in Rose's fingers.

Rose felt like she was trapped in a nightmare. In it, she was in a car, sitting beside a woman.

When she turned to see who it was, she cried, "Mom..."

A look of fear flared in the woman's eyes. Rose followed her gaze and saw a truck with blinding lights hurtling right at their car.

There was a loud crash, followed by the car being overturned and falling into a nearby river.

Rose could feel the car sinking underwater and her with it, but suddenly a firm hand caught her wrist, pulling her up.

A determined yet gentle voice said to her, "You need to leave, Rose... you need to leave right now!"

It was her mother's voice. Rose wanted to see her face, but the next thing she knew she was in the car's wreckage, and her mother had turned into a man whose face she could not see.

All she heard was a worried, "Hang on, miss!"

Rose suddenly woke up from her dream. Her car accident was no coincidence!

She hissed as she lifted her injured hand to pick up her phone. When she saw today's date, another wave of shock ran through her. It was the tenth already, the day of the finale! Was she too late?

The thought that Kelly would use her design in the final competition made anger well up in her chest. That design was created by her hand! Just then, a conversation wafted in from outside the ward.

"I heard the sudden change of competition site from Regalia to Aquastead's Trade Center was according to Mr. Finch's instructions!"

"But it was the Young's House who organized this. How could they just let Mr. Finch do as he pleases?"

"I heard from a cousin who works in the Young's House of Jewels that Mr. Finch is in a relationship with Anastasia Young. They knew each other from a young age and were even contracted to marry one another. Yet Anastasia ended up marrying someone else. I heard that, she realized she still had feelings for Mr. Finch later on, and so decided to divorce her current husband.

The name 'Anastasia Young' was strangely familiar to Rose, but she hadn't the time to ponder it right now.

All she knew was that the competition site was now in Aquastead, so she was going to attend it and take back what was hers!

Rose secretly left the hospital and headed to Aquastead Trade Center. All participants submitted their respective creations to the organizer before the finale,

A large screen at the venue depicting said participants names would reflect their submissions, and participants who had submitted their creations would have their names turned from gray to red.

Kelly saw that Rose's name was still gray and snickered delightfully. When she turned away, she happened to see Jonathan in the distance!

Honey You're a Billionaire Chapter 55

Chapter 55 Do You Have a Twin Brother?

Jonathan was heading backstage under the protection of several bodyguards. Kelly only caught sight of his fading back, but it was enough to get her hyped up.

Ever since the last time, Kelly had persisted with her dream of making it to the top, promising herself that she would approach Jonathan again once she got first place in the competition.

She wanted to leave him a lasting impression, after all. Meanwhile, Kelly forgot entirely about the participant's name list on the screen, and so did not see when Rose's name changed from gray to red.

Evan had just gotten off his plane at the Aquastead International Airport when he called Rose's number. He'd taken an emergency flight to Finterra and saw the viral news online involving Rose.

Many of his calls to her had gone unanswered, until this one.

"Where are you, Rose? What happened? Are ...are you okay?" Evan asked worriedly.

Rose leaned against her seat, wincing as her injury flared with pain.

"I'm okay. I'm on my way to the competition site."

Her weak tone made Evan worry even more.

"Rose, I'm making sure the hate news online is being suppressed. For some reason, I can't help but feel like you've made some enemies who are intentionally using this situation to ruin your reputation..."

News online?

Rose opened up her phone. Hashtags screamed in her face, ranging from #QuititRoseShaffer to # RoseShafferDisrespectsCompetition and #BanRoseShaffer. All three had been made viral online.

"Look, I'm famous," Rose murmured bitterly.

There was no way someone as minuscule as her would end up being in the headlines if it weren't for some third party's manipulation. Was it Jamie who started this? Or Kelly?

If Rose was banned from the industry, Celeste Jewel would be doomed once she inherited it.

Taking a deep breath, Rose had the driver speed up. They reached the venue in thirty minutes, which was packed with a thick crowd near the entrance.

Some younger fans were holding up sign boards in their hands that read stuff like “Look at me, hotcakes!” to “You’re so handsome!”. Ezra must be nearby.

Usually, Rose would’ve tried her luck catching him as he walked by, but right now all she wanted was to reclaim what was hers in the competition, suffering or not.

She shoved into the crowd, a black mask on her face. Rose was nearly at the venue entrance when a young woman caught her wrist.

“Sir is asking for your presence immediately, Ms. Raeynal”

Sir? Ms. Raeyna?

Rose was taken aback. Realizing this woman must’ve mistaken her for another, she tried clarifying herself. Unfortunately, the woman had already dragged her into a nearby private lounge.

When Rose came back to her senses, the door had long shut behind her.

A man’s voice came from behind her, “Well, what are you waiting for? Hurry up and get started on my makeup!”

Makeup? Rose turned around to find a man languishing in a cushioned seat in front of a makeup mirror. His eyes were shut as Rose gazed at his face.

Shock, she slowly walked up towards him. If she hadn’t recognized the man to be Ezra Turner, she would’ve thought this was her star escort husband.

Rose had found the latter handsome, yes, but never put him side by side in comparison to Ezra Turner.

This sudden comparison made her realize just how similar they looked, yet one closer look and you could tell just where their differences lay.

Just like that, Rose blurted out a question before she could stop herself.

“Do you have a twin brother?”

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Chapter 56 Find Out Who That Woman Is

Ezra opened his eyes all of a sudden.

Rose was taken aback by the action and swiftly ran out of the makeup lounge. Seconds later, Ezra's assistant brought in another woman who'd dressed just like Rose earlier.

The assistant said apologetically, "I'm so sorry, sir. I mistook the other woman for Ms. Raeyna ... "

Ezra looked at Raeyna, noting how she'd dressed just like the woman from earlier – hair tied up in a ponytail, wearing a black face mask. Even her left arm was bound up in a medical sling.

"They do look pretty similar," Ezra noted, amused.

But the woman earlier had asked him if he had a twin brother. Did that mean she'd met someone who looked like him before? He was certain he was the only person who had his looks!

"Hm."

Curiosity piqued, Ezra called his assistant over.

"Find out who that woman from earlier is. Now!"

Raeyna was left feeling disappointed.

She said flatly, "I can just touch up your makeup a little, and you can head on out after."

According to the event schedule, Ezra only needed to show up onstage to present the winning piece. The event had only made it to the jewelry piece showcasing for the time being.

Meanwhile, Rose had found a seat amongst the audience, waiting for the participants' pieces to be revealed one by one.

When the session neared its end, the host announced, "Now let us invite our 28th participant, Ms. Kelly Shaffer."

Rose's heart leaped into her throat as she watched Kelly walk onstage, dressed in a striking red dress. She was all smiles, wearing Rose's favorite color today

The big screen displayed the necklace design, its smooth structure and lines catching everyone's attention.

At the bottom right was the name 'Kelly Shaffer' underneath a flame symbol. The sight-made Rose curl her hands into fists.

The host asked Kelly, “What a stunning design, Ms. Kelly! May we know what this flame symbol means?” How would Kelly know what it meant? When she got her hands on the design, she noticed the symbol of a flame drawn at the bottom corner.

Not knowing what it meant, she decided to write her name beneath it.

With a grin, Kelly answered, “This is just a habit of mine. I like adding a flame symbol to my drawings or writings. If it were to mean anything. I’d say it means my unquenchable passion for design.”

She then winked, trying to act cutesy. The crowd went wild with sounds of appreciation.

Miles, however, frowned upon seeing the flame symbol from the VIP seating row. He recognized it when he saw Ms. Flora’s designs through Evan.

It was Ms. Flora’s signature mark for her drawings. But Kelly Shaffer was not Ms. Flora. A strange light glinted in Miles’ eyes.

Meanwhile, someone brought out ‘Kelly’s’ necklace. The moment it was revealed, a wave of gasps washed through the crowd.

A stunning, silver necklace was presented on stage, inlaid with a large fire opal in the center and flanked by several others.

It was undoubtedly the most perfectly crafted piece of jewelry among all the other pieces. The craftsmanship was exquisite, and some judges even gave it a 10/10.

After they’d given their points, the attention now turned to Jonathan’s points. Though he was as much a judge as the rest, he wasn’t present in the venue with them.

He was currently in a special private lounge to the side, watching the competition proceed through a live. telecast.

The moment Kelly’s design was presented, he’d immediately recognized it to be Rose’s work. How could Rose’s design have fallen into Kelly’s hands...

“The design and final product are exquisite,” he said coldly. “I’d like to meet Ms. Kelly Shaffer in person.”

Honey You’re a Billionaire Chapter 57

Chapter 57 She Was Here!

Jonathan’s instruction rang through the microphone and to the speakers in the event venue. He’d not said a word during the other participants’ showcase, yet now he was asking to meet Kelly in person!

Did that mean the award was right on the horizon for Kelly? The audience gazed at Kelly in sheer admiration, the latter which was buzzing with excitement.

Jonathan Finch had called personally for her. Did that mean she'd finally caught his attention? She took a deep breath to compose herself. She couldn't look too shocked now that Jonathan was looking at her.

Smiling pleasantly, she was about to accept Jonathan's offer when the man spoke again, "But before that, let us see the final participant's creation!"

He then went out of the lounge and backstage.

Kelly frowned lightly, asking, "Final participant? Weren't there only 28 of us? I should be the final one, right

Next thing she knew, the participant list had been displayed on screen. Kelly grew rigid with fright when she saw that Rose's name had been colored red.

Rose was just as shocked at the sight. She'd been about to go onstage to reveal Kelly's scheme in front of everybody. She hadn't submitted her creation, so the organizer should've disqualified her already.

So what was happening now?

"Now let us welcome Ms. Rose Shaffer onstage," the host said.

Everyone looked to the side of the stage where the participants filed in, but Rose was not there.

Kelly's panic instantly faded. Rose was still unconscious in the hospital, so there was no way she'd be here right now.

She was about to take advantage of the situation to further smear Rose's name when a voice suddenly rang out from amidst the crowd.

"I'm right here..."

Rose's throat was painfully sore as she rasped out the words. Only then did the crowd turn to look at her. Upon hearing her, Jonathan looked in her direction. Shock and delight filled his being.

Rose was awake! Not only that, but she was present here too!

"I'm here! I'm Rose Shaffer!" Rose said again, voice shaky.

Jonathan shot his bodyguards a look. They immediately went to clear out a path for Rose to the stage. All eyes were on her as she walked onstage.

Meanwhile, no one but Ezra noticed how Jonathan silently disappeared back behind the curtains. He narrowed his eyes, then glanced at Rose. He grinned lightly.

So your name is Rose, hm?"

Rose was slowly walking toward Kelly, glaring fixedly at her. The latter was nearly trembling in sheer panic. She took a step back, wanting to leave.

"You can leave from here, Ms. Kelly," the host said.

Kelly was worried Rose might sabotage her, so the host had practically saved her. She decided to step away first before finding a way to get back at Rose. But Rose wasn't going to let her go that easily.

Kelly took a step back, but Rose immediately grabbed her arm.

"Can I have my dear sister stand with me here onstage?"

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Chapter 58 Searching For Him

"So you two are sisters? No wonder you share the same surname! If that's the case, would you be willing to stay here and witness your sister's creation?" the host asked, surprised.

Kelly gnawed angrily at her cheek. Rose's grip around her arm tightened, making her grit out, "Of course I will!"

The host nodded at Rose.

"Your mask, Ms. Rose..."

Rose took her mask off, revealing her pale and fragile visage. Miles couldn't help but stand up, watching her in utter shock. No one noticed him when he did this, however.

All of a sudden, a design sketch appeared on the screen onstage. It was drenched in blood, the bright color making everyone reel away.

"What is this?"

"Why is there so much blood?"

Rose turned to look at the screen and was left shocked.

“What’s going on?” A judge asked.

Kelly immediately put on a worried act.

“How could you be so careless as to let your design get so dirtied, Rose? What if people think you’re disrespecting the competition?”

The judges instantly frowned. They’d seen the discussions online about Rose’s reputation, so their perspective of her further worsened.

Kelly was delighted by this. She couldn’t wait for the judges to outright disqualify Rose.

Suddenly, the host seemed to receive some instructions through his earpiece. He first appeared shocked, then turned to Rose with a gaze of utmost pity.

“Ms. Rose isn’t disrespecting the competition. She’s been full–heartedly devoted to it!”

The crowd turned to Rose curiously.

The host continued, “You must all be wondering why there’s so much blood soaked in this design. It’s only because it’s been part of a terrible car accident!”

“How could that have happened?” someone asked from the crowd.

“Ms. Rose was holding the design in hand when she became the unfortunate victim of a car accident recently. She held onto it even after losing consciousness and being in the ER. The blood soaking this design surely represents her devotion to this competition instead of otherwise!” the host cried into the microphone.

The audience now gazed at Rose with admiration and pity. Rose stared at the design on the screen. She’d sketched it in the car days ago. Why was it here?

The host answered her unasked question in the next instant.

“There was someone special who understood Ms. Rose’s devotion, and so he’d personally turned this design to life while Ms. Rose was resting unconscious in the hospital.”

The creation was revealed, being displayed side by side with its sketch on the screen. Only then did the audience notice that the design was actually of two rings locked together.

The bloodstain had created a perfect hoop that connected the two. At first glance, one would think they were looking at an actual necklace.

The actual creation, on the other hand, was a silver necklace studded with rubies

Two rings hung onto one end, and where the blood had stained a crystal red in the design, there was a red diamond now inlaid in the actual creation itself.

Meanwhile, the other necklace only consisted of a few demure white diamonds. The red and white diamonds reflected one another, showing off a contrast of riotous passion and calm stillness.

Ezra immediately recognized the red diamond onscreen. The Finches had uncovered a one-in-a-million red diamond in their mine overseas recently, practically priceless in value.

Yet he chose to use it here

“How curious,” Ezra murmured, eyes glinting as he stared at Rose.

Rose’s heart felt like it might leap out of her chest as she gazed at the finished creation. She never imagined such a color pairing would create such a magnificent impact!

Who was this ‘someone special’ the host meant? All Rose could think of was the star escort husband’s face. She instantly searched for him in the crowd.

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Chapter 59 Utterly Shameless

But he was nowhere to be found in the audience. Still, Rose was certain this was the work of her star escort husband.

Just then, someone applauded in the audience. As if awoken from some spell, the rest of the audience erupted into riotous claps, giving their approval to Rose’s creation.

Kelly never anticipated things to turn out like this. How could Rose have drawn up a design in such a short amount of time?

She stared intently at the design, then, as if latching onto a bone to pick, said, “It is a beautiful necklace. Yet why does it seem to be more of a pair of rings?”

As stunning as this necklace was, it wasn’t derived from the design sketch itself. That meant it was bound to be disqualified!

The judges all had a look of uncertainty on their faces now as they discussed amongst themselves.

Rose turned back to the stage. She hadn't forgotten her purpose here today. She sneered, about to retort when Miles suddenly called out from the VIP seating area, his voice loud and clear.

"The fact that they're rings does go against the rules. But isn't this flame symbol on Ms. Rose's sketch a little familiar to all of us here?"

Everyone turned back to the screen, noticing the little symbol of a flame at the bottom corner of the sketch right above Rose's name.

"Ms. Kelly's sketch had the same symbol!"

The audience instantly pieced it together.

"Could you explain how this came to be, Ms. Kelly?" Miles asked, staring right at her.

Kelly's heart fell into her stomach. She quickly acted innocent.

"I'm sorry, Rose. I can't keep this a secret anymore. I told you this competition was an important one and that you had to draw your design. Why did you have to steal mine?"

The crowd roared with speculation. Rose was nearly steaming at the ears with how shameless Kelly was.

She snorted, saying, "Where's your proof that I stole it?"

Kelly gnawed on her lip. Of course, she didn't have proof! But then she suddenly spotted Maya amongst the band of participants.

"Maya knows!" Kelly cried, upping her pitiful act. "Maya knows I've always had the habit of adding this flame symbol. She also knows my sister has always enjoyed stealing what's mine."

Maya had already held a vengeful grudge against Rose for what happened at the bar the other night, so she didn't hesitate to help Kelly this time around.

"Yes, I can verify that the symbol is Kelly's. Rose has always been very domineering, so Kelly's always had to help hide the truth for her..."

Everyone's gaze was suddenly filled with judgment as they turned to Rose. Rose only shot Maya a blank stare.

Looks like she had no choice but to bring up her alias, Ms. Flora, now. Not if she wanted her work to continue being insulted, that is.

Suppressing a groan of pain as her wounds flared, she croaked out, "I have evidence"

Just then two different voices rang out as well, louder than hers.

“I have evidence!”

“I have evidencel”

One was from Miles in the VIP seating area, and the other was from Evan, who’d just walked into the venue.

The crowd turned their attention to the two men. Miles gave off a foreboding aura while Evan quickened his pace forward. They shared a look before gazing at Rose onstage.

Miles said calmly, “I’ve seen this symbol before. Everyone who’s had some experience in our industry would easily recognize this symbol. It belongs to the recently–acclaimed jewelry designer prodigy known as Ms. Flora. Only a limited few know of her true identity. Could you be Ms. Flora herself, Ms. Kelly?”

Kelly was taken aback. Of course, she’d heard about Ms. Flora. But what did this flame symbol have to do with her? Rose had drawn it herself.

Yet now that everyone’s attention was on her, Kelly had no choice but to keep her act up. She lowered her gaze, acting shy.

“Can we not bring this up here? I like keeping a low profile.”

“So you mean to say you are Ms. Flora?”

Miles’ smile deepened.

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Chapter 60 It Hurts Too Much

Kelly was panicking Inside under Miles’ gaze. All of a sudden, a thought came to mind: if she admitted that she was Ms. Flora, she’d win this competition for sure!

Kelly couldn’t help but feel delighted, knowing that Jonathan was watching her right now from somewhere behind the scenes.

She said humbly, “Yes. I didn’t want to reveal my identity at first, but I forgot to leave out the signature in my sketch this time. By the time I thought about changing it, it was too late, so

Kelly knew her lie wouldn't stand up to question one day, but by that time she would've already won Jonathan's heart over. So, she had nothing to fear!

To her surprise, when she finished speaking, Rose chuckled lightly beside her. Kelly was about to ask her why she was laughing when Miles laughed as well. It was dripping in sarcasm and disdain.

"Did you know, I happened to meet Ms. Flora in person a couple of days ago, right here in Aquasteed? You're not who I met up with at all," Miles exclaimed.

The crowd's attitude immediately changed from awe to one of astonishment and speculation.

Kelly's heart lurched once again, though she kept her act up.

"Are you sure you didn't make a mistake, Mr. Young? Or were you scammed? After all, I've never revealed my identity to anyone."

"Make a mistake? You're saying K&K's chief brand officer would make such a mistake as well?" Miles glanced at Evan.

Rose had never wanted to reveal her identity as Ms. Flora, but if she didn't know, she just might end up being labeled as a copycat and thief in the jewelry design world, ending her career.

Evan couldn't let that happen!

He took out his phone and tapped the screen. The screen onstage then depicted several design sketches.

The crowd instantly recognized them as the sketches for Ms. Flora's creations 'Crimson Temptress' and Moonlight Angel',

"These are some of the sketches for Ms. Flora's creations. There is no other copy of them," Evan announced, "Now please turn your attention to the flame symbol by the bottom corner of the drawing."

The audience gazed at the little symbol of a flame beside the letter F on the sketches. They instantly identified it to be the same as the one on Kelly's and Rose's sketches!

"They look the same, right down to those two points at the top of the flame. You can see they're from the same person."

"Yeah. No wonder Ms. Kelly said she was Ms. Flora."

"Did you forget that Ms. Rose's design had the same flame symbol?"

“I thought Kelly said Rose stole her design to participate in this competition?”

“But Mr. Young clearly said Ms. Flora wasn’t Ms. Kelly

“Who is Ms. Flora’s then?”

Everyone looked at Evan. Surely he must know who Ms. Flora’s true identity is, given his position. Evan continued gazing at Rose.

“My apologies for not keeping your secret, miss.”

His meaning was clear as day. The audience took a couple of seconds for the dots to connect.

“Rose Shaffer is Ms. Flora!”

Miles beamed warmly at Rose as well.

“I met with you last time to invite you to become a guest judge for our event today. Now I understand why you turned down our offer at the time. It would’ve been gravely inappropriate if you were to judge now that you’re a participant here.”

His words caused another wave of conversation amongst the crowd. Ms. Flora had more than enough qualifications to judge the competition today. Their gazes filled with admiration as they looked at Rose.

Rose nodded at both Miles and Evan, thanking them for their assistance. Meanwhile, the morphine in her system seemed to have lessened some.

Her wounds were now hurting painfully. She had to hurry up and retrieve what was hers! Jonathan noticed how she was suppressing her pain from where he was backstage.

He immediately instructed the host onstage, “Hurry up and clarify who the symbols and creations belong to, now!”