

Irresistible 671

[Chapter 671 The Familiar Black Cloak](#)

Sylvia's POV:

I charged into the crowd and tried to get my hands on the familiar figure, but lost it in a flash.

There were too many people around right now. I couldn't just turn into a wolf and chase after that person in cloak, for I might injured someone by accident during the process.

Leonard and Rufus joined me in a few minutes.

"What's wrong?" Leonard seemed to have sensed from my reaction that something was wrong, so he instantly dispatched his men.

"I spotted a suspicious person. But she disappeared." I scanned the crowd quickly as I said this, but there was no sign of a woman in a black cloak.

Rufus also swept his eyes over the crowd but didn't see anyone suspicious.

"Were you mistaken?" he asked.

I shook my head. "No, I'm certain of what I saw. That person was acting dubiously. I think she is Noreen..."

"Noreen? Are you sure?" Rufus asked in a low voice.

Leonard was giving instructions to his men, so he wasn't paying attention to us. I pulled Rufus a little farther away and whispered, "The figure is exactly the same one I'd seen in the stone chamber. I'm afraid it's really Noreen."

I was confident this wasn't a hallucination. It must be another trick of Noreen's. She'd said she would wait for me in the Silver Moon Pack.

Her appearance right now was definitely not a coincidence. She must be deliberately reminding me that she was really here.

My stomach flipped with uneasiness, and I was thrown into apathy again. I didn't know what Noreen was up to, nor did I know what was waiting ahead of us.

I turned to Leonard and asked, "Have any questionable people entered the pack recently?"

Alina's wedding was approaching. In order to prevent any untoward incident from occurring, all the people who entered and exited the pack needed to have their identities checked and had to have a pass.

Leonard was so positive that there was no hint of hesitation in his voice when he replied, "The entrances are heavily guarded. No suspicious person can enter. And if there was such a person, I would have known a long time ago."

I didn't respond. Before Noreen entered, the pack was absolutely safe.

But now that she had crept in, it was hard to be so sure.

"We still need to be extra careful. The wedding is coming, and many guests will attend," I said to Leonard seriously.

I didn't mention Noreen to him. I was afraid that he would do something and that would alert her.

Leonard replied, "Don't worry. Nothing will go wrong."

I was still fretful, so I looked back in the direction where the black-cloaked person had disappeared. At the end of that road stood a huge castle.

"Where does that road lead to?"

Following my gaze, Leonard answered, "That is the path to my residence. Alina is also there."

I frowned, the uneasiness inside me rising steadily.

What on earth did Noreen intend to do?

Leonard seemed to know the cause of my concern, so he sent another group of soldiers to the castle Alina was at.

"Don't worry. I was anxious that Alina would run away before the wedding, so I locked her in her room. That place is more heavily guarded than the city gates. Not even a fly can slip in."

I was speechless. No wonder I hadn't seen Alina today. She had been confined by Leonard.

Alina might be on the verge of a breakdown. She didn't give in easily to force.

For some reason, I began to sympathize with her.

There was no doubt that Leonard was a good father, but he was obstinate about certain matters.

"I think you should talk to Alina, instead of just making decisions for her. She will never be happy if she doesn't love the man she is going to marry."

Leonard smiled and didn't take my advice seriously. "I'm her father. Everything I do is for her good. I have the right to make decisions for her. Alina doesn't understand the reality of life, but she will in the future. Although she despises me now, there is no long-term hatred between a father and his daughter. I believe that one day she will appreciate my actions."

While we were talking, a car approached us.

We dropped the topic and got into the car.

[Chapter 672 A Ghos](#)

Alina's POV:

After I sent the maid away, I was all alone in the room. Several guards had been posted outside to prevent me from escaping.

I sat in front of the dressing table and studied myself in the mirror. There was no color in my cheeks and my eyes shone with unconcealed anxiety.

I was such a loser.

My relationship had failed, and now my father had locked me in this room so he could marry me off for his own benefit.

The people I'd thought would always be by my side had all let me down in the end.

I was alright with Rufus abandoning me, but how could Warren also leave me behind? He had betrayed me a long time ago, but still pretended to be heartbroken, making me believe that he had lived a life of agony without me.

But he was, in fact, very happy.

I used to enjoy fairy tales; princess and her knight in shining armor. Now I finally realized fairy tales were only for kids; they would never bring solace to adults struggling in real life!

I finally saw through these hypocritical people.

Whether it was my father or Warren, they all treated me like a hindrance and wanted to toss me away to one side.

I didn't want them to succeed, but there was nothing I could do.

My father had confined me to this room and I couldn't go anywhere.

I didn't understand how things had turned out like this. Everything was fine before, but had changed

after Sylvia had appeared.

"Do you want Sylvia to die?"

At this time, I suddenly heard a hoarse female voice behind me, talking as if she was reading my mind.

"Oh, you do want Sylvia to die. Not just her, but that bitch Flora should also die."

I spun around. "Who are you?"

There was no one behind me, but the voice was still speaking. I could hear the woman smile with a hint of bewitchment in her voice. "Do you want to destroy them all, Alina? I can fulfill your wish."

"Who the hell are you? How dare you scare me like this?" I felt goosebumps erupt all over my body.

I had never believed in ghosts before, but I was terrified right now.

I stumbled in the direction of the door, wanting to call for help. But when I turned around, I bumped into a woman dressed in a black cloak. The black cloak was very long and covered her whole body, obscuring her face from my view.

I staggered back, fear flowing through my veins and infiltrating every part of my body.

This was so horrifying. How had this woman entered so quietly?

"Don't be afraid. I won't hurt you." The woman in the black cloak slowly approached me. It wasn't just her voice that was cold. Her temperament was also dark and forbidding.

I had only ever felt this kind of immense intimidation and imposing aura in the presence of Rufus.

I didn't give her a chance to get close to me. I picked up a vase and threw it at her feet. Then I filled my lungs with air and shouted with all my might, "Guards! Assassin!"

The woman laughed coolly, as if chuckling at my ignorance. "Stop screaming. No one is going to come."

"What... What do you mean?" I was so frightened. I didn't remember when I had offended this person.

The woman in the black cloak sighed as she explained, "Don't you think it's eerily quiet around? Even if you yell at the top of your lungs, they won't be able to hear you."

I bit my lower lip as it dawned on me that she was not a woman to be trifled with. So, I swallowed the fear and asked, "Who are you? What do you want?"

But to my surprise, the woman abruptly appeared right in front of me like a ghost. I was so terrified that

I slammed my eyes shut and let out a shriek.

The woman snorted and cupped my face with her cold hands. Her hoarse voice rang in my ears. "Don't be afraid. I won't hurt you. I'm just here to tell you the truth. But if you keep shouting, I can't guarantee how things will pan out."

[Chapter 673 Another Daughter](#)

Alina's POV:

"What... What truth?" My voice was shaking, and every part of my body was frozen in place.

The woman in the black cloak laughed and caressed my neck with her fingers. "Aren't you curious about why your father is behaving so strangely? Why is he insisting that you marry this man you barely know?"

"What... Why?" My scalp was tingling, and the fear within me almost crippled me. I couldn't focus on her words. I just wanted her to let go of my neck.

The woman seemed to sympathize with me and she sighed. "What a poor thing! You have worked so hard, but you still don't hold a candle to the other daughter in your father's heart."

"The other daughter?" My ears perked up at this important point and my interest was aroused. I automatically asked, "What do you mean? Are you saying that my father has another daughter?"

"What do you think? He is giving you up because he has someone better than you." The woman sneered, her voice audibly dripping with mockery.

My brain was completely muddled. I felt like this woman was babbling nonsense. My father was a man of integrity. How could he cheat on my mother and have another daughter?

"You don't know, do you? That girl is the daughter of your father and his true love. You, on the other hand, were just an accident."

"What drivel are you spouting?" I was beginning to lose my temper. This woman's claims were getting increasingly ridiculous. My father and mother were deeply in love with each other. How could there have been another woman?

The strange woman didn't take my angrily spoken words to heart. "Really? Don't you wanna know who your father's other daughter is? She is significantly stronger than you. She is also brave and kind-hearted, and has inherited your father's powerful bloodline. Your father adores her. As for you, you are nothing but a burden. You are a piece of garbage in your father's eyes. You don't deserve to inherit the Alpha's position. He obviously has to send you away."

My lips curled up in disdain. "You can continue cooking up stories. My father only has one child--me. If he truly had another daughter, he would have brought her to the pack."

"You are so naive, Alina." The woman scoffed at me, withdrew her hand from my neck, and flashed in front of me. She extracted a crystal ball from her black cloak and handed it to me. "Don't you want to see it with your own eyes? Don't you want to know who this woman is?"

I eyed the crystal ball with disdain. This woman was excellent at creating lies.

I wanted to see what tricks she would play.

I accepted the crystal ball and fidgeted with it, feeling a little impatient. "How do I use this? It's too complicated."

"Hold it tightly in your hands."

I followed her instructions. She cast a spell on the crystal ball, and her long cold fingers brushed over it. Then, a blurry image appeared.

It slowly became clear, until I could finally make out a girl's back.

This girl was dressed in a long blue dress. A diamond bracelet adorned her slender wrist. She had a shapely waist and her long hair fell in loose waves around her shoulders.

I frowned. I was well-acquainted with this figure.

It looked like...

My heart was beating like a jungle drum, and an unwelcome answer was about to pop into my mind.

At this moment, another familiar voice called out, making the girl turn around.

She slowly revealed her face, a sweet smile lighting up her face.

My mind went blank, and the crystal ball slipped from my hands.

It was Sylvia...

[Chapter 674 Crystal Ball](#)

Alina's POV:

When Sylvia turned around, the voice that called her came from the crystal ball. Soon, the person's features eventually appeared.

It was my father, Leonard.

I was disoriented, and it was obvious by how blankly I was peering in at the crystal ball on the ground. I never pictured that my father could be so gentle and kind. It was as if the person I was looking at was another entity. Was he indeed my father?

What flashed in the crystal ball was the scene when my father was giving Sylvia a special training in the capital city. The more I stared at the scene, the more I couldn't help but notice something different.

Oh, I got it now. My father had never trained me with so much patience, let alone got along with me like a friend. What I didn't experience when I was with him was what I was seeing he was letting Sylvia encounter.

I couldn't really peg the two of us as father and daughter—we were more like superior and subordinate. We seldom interacted with each other, but when we did, we would usually get straight to the point. Small talks were out of the question. He had always drawn a line between us; if there was nothing necessary to talk about, he wouldn't even bother speaking to me.

I had a hard time understanding our setup before. I eventually decided to shrug it off thinking it was just the way my father was. He was only keeping a stiff edge around me for my own good. But never had it crossed my mind that he could be a kind and gentle father. Was it because I was conditioned to think that way?

The crystal ball was now giving me the answers to my questions: he poured all his love to another girl, sparing none to his own daughter.

My eyes stung, and the next moment, tears streamed down my face as I felt my heart being wrung.

The scene switched to the wilderness. A majestic white wolf was galloping in the forest. Without a doubt, I knew it was my father's wolf. Sprinting behind him was a she-wolf of the same color. It was Sylvia's wolf.

I had seen her wolf in the school exam before. I didn't think too much at that time, but after witnessing how close Sylvia and my father were, everything became clear to me. Once again, I felt my heart being wrenched.

One glance could fool anyone into thinking they had the same hair. Another glimpse would make one notice that a few wisps of their red hair matched each other.

The giant wolf wandered through the dense forest with the smaller wolf's neck in its mouth. Anyone could make a rough guess what their relationship was, seeing how the two wolves were having the time of their lives in the forest.

"Your father has never treated you like this." The woman in black sneered, rubbing salt in my wounds.

I looked at the crystal ball on the ground with glaring eyes, and resentment rushed through my veins like

lava. "What else do you know?"

The woman in black snickered. "The reason why your father is in a hurry to wed you to an ordinary man from another pack is because he wants to take Sylvia back and let her take over this pack. You know that your father has always been in poor health, so he is eager to find a successor."

"That's impossible!" I stepped on the crystal ball and cried hysterically. "You're lying to me! That's not true!"

How could my own father abandon me? I was his biological daughter. We had been a family for so many years. Did he seriously abandon me because of that bitch? Did he choose someone else over his own flesh and blood? But father must have had his reasons. That bitch must have used underhanded tricks. She took away Rufus once, and now she wanted to take my father away!

I hated her so much that I wanted to suck her blood, skin her alive and eat her flesh as she screamed for mercy. What more did I have that she wanted all to herself?

"Sylvia is also his biological daughter." The woman in black seemed to have read the thoughts rolling in my wits and mercilessly broke to me the notion that I was trying hard to bury at the back of my mind.

"Nonsense! That bitch doesn't deserve to compete with me." I was more than infuriated that my brain was buzzing and unable to think straight.

"Don't be so arrogant, Alina. It doesn't magically fix the fact that you're still a loser. No matter how excellent you think you are, you will never be able to compete with Sylvia. You must've forgotten that Rufus didn't like you. Now in your father's heart, I won't be surprised to know that even Sylvia's hair is more important than you."

The woman's words were like a knife stabbing into my chest senselessly. Just how much more did I need to endure?

The combination of powerlessness and anger tore me apart. I didn't want to believe anything she was spouting, and I didn't dare to look at the crystal ball again. She was just playing tricks with my mind to intentionally hurt me.

I picked up the crystal ball on the ground and smashed it against the wall. With a bang, the crystal ball exploded, and the shards flew everywhere, shimmering in the light.

The woman didn't expect me to do something like that, and my little stunt stunned her. Before she could react, I grabbed her hood and pulled it off. Just who did she think she was, spewing nonsense with that running mouth of hers?

But as I got a closer look of her face, it was my turn to be dumbfounded. "Damn it! How could it be

you?"

[Chapter 675 Face Changing Skill](#)

Alina's POV:

The woman was Camil, the maid I drove away before. Her timidity disappeared without a trace, and she now looked at me as a smile slowly came to her lips. "Miss Quinn."

As if sensing that I was about to lose my temper, she turned around and in that split second, she morphed her face into a somewhat rough man. Another fleeting second passed and she mimicked the face of my deceased mother and said in the same serious voice, "Alina, are you going to admit defeat? Are you going to allow yourself to be trampled by a lowly she-wolf? Are you really going to take it lying down?"

Along with the shock of how fast she could alter her facial features was the terror that hit me as I saw my late mother's face. I fell to the ground. "Who the hell are you?"

The woman strode over, still wearing the exact same face as my mother's. She squatted beside me and said gently, "You just need to know that everything I said is true."

I looked at the woman's face in a daze and was able to fool myself into thinking that my mother had really come back to me.

"Tell me, why did you come to me today?" Facing the counterfeit of my mother's face, I tried to calm myself down. I had naturally revered my mother since I was a child, and I held onto it until now, even if the person in front of me was not really her.

"I told you. I just want you to know the truth."

"Really? Can it really be that uncomplicated?" I simply didn't believe that she had no ulterior motives. Judging from her black cloak, I reasoned that she should be a witch. I couldn't shrug off the doubts I had over her. None of the witches I had seen was good, and the one in front of me was definitely no exception. She must be up to something. Why else would she come to me?

The woman in black raised the corners of her mouth, revealing a strange smile. "Do you think I have other intentions? Alright. You can help me kill Sylvia, then."

What she said was ridiculous! "If I could kill her, I wouldn't have wasted so much time doing nothing, and we certainly wouldn't have been having this conversation right now."

Although Sylvia seemed to be arrogant and aloof, she was more ruthless than anyone else. It was just impossible to get into that thick skin of hers. I had suffered more than I could handle when I was in the capital city. What else would this witch dish out for me?

The woman took my words as a jest and ignored my remarks. She took out a milky white gem pendant and handed it to me. "This is a gemstone that will be helpful in recognizing a relative. The gemstone will turn pale pink once blood is dripped on it. It will feel hot if the one who is blood related to the owner appears within one meter from the gemstone. You don't believe that Sylvia is your father's another daughter, right? Find a way to get Sylvia's blood to activate this gem pendant. If you get close to your father and the gem pendant feels hot, that's enough proof that they are related by blood."

Holding the pendant, I was a little confused. "Why should I believe you? Do you seriously think that I would do whatever you say? Do you want me to believe that witchcraft can outdo modern technology now? You probably take me for a fool!"

I closed my eyes and threw the pendant back to her. I didn't want to see my mother's face anymore. That was the only thing that would help her persuade me into doing what she wanted.

She laughed with disdain, mocking me. "This is the first time that someone doubts my witchcraft. You really are an arrogant little fool. No wonder your father doesn't like you. You're as inanimate as a doorknob."

"Between us, you're the one who's stupid! It's just magic. Everyone can do it!"

All it would take was a small push, and I'd be breaking down after knowing such shocking news. I was unwilling to accept the cruel truth. To keep my tears from falling, I took the tissue on the table and turned it into a real rose.

The woman scoffed. "Boring."

"If it's boring, then why did you change yourself into a rose as well?" I snorted, trying to throw more insult at her than she did at me. The witch must be going soft in the head.

A groan escaped her throat. The giant rose bent down and looked down at me. At first glance, it looked creepy as it hovered over me. Its gaze bore into mine and lingered for a while.

Before I could react, the giant rose turned human again. It seemed she was disappointed by my reaction.

The woman threw the pendant back to me and said in a cold tone, "Anyway, I've told you the truth. It's already your problem whether to believe it or not, and so is the courage in verifying what I told you. Sylvia recognized your father using the same pendant. Hide it well and don't let her see that you have it too."

[Chapter 676 Fighting Alone](#)

Alina's POV:

The guards' voice came from outside.

I instantly spun around and ran out. "Help! There is an assassin in my room!"

The guards quickly rushed to me and surrounded me protectively. "Where is the assassin, Miss Quinn?"

"In my room! Go and catch her!"

They charged into my room, well-armed with weapons, but were stumped. "Miss Quinn, there is no trace of an assassin here..."

"How is that possible?"

I pushed them aside from behind and discovered that there was indeed no assassin in my room. The woman in the black cloak had already escaped.

Witches were skilled at concealing themselves and using magic. If I wasn't holding the pendant that she gave me in my hand as proof, I would have thought that I had just hallucinated our encounter.

The guards did a thorough sweep of the room again, but failed to find the witch.

"Miss Quinn, why don't you shift to another room?" one of the guards suggested.

I shook my head and regained my composure. "There's no need. You can leave now."

The guards obeyed and filed out of the room.

My eyes fell on the pendant, which suddenly reminded me of something. I called out to the guards to stop them and asked, "Has a banquet been arranged for tonight?"

Three days ago, my father had sent his men to the East Sea to capture globefishes. The globefishes were only found in the sea near the Silver Moon Pack.

Their meat was renowned for being delicious and tender. Every time my father invited important guests, he would prepare this delicacy.

The castle was abuzz with activity these days, so I reasoned that they had been busy making preparations for the banquet.

But the guards didn't give me an answer right away. They exchanged glances with each other, hesitating to reveal the truth to me.

Ever since I had been confined to my room, my father's spies had replaced all of my loyal servants.

I sneered coldly. "Go and inform my father that I will be attending the banquet tonight."

"Miss Quinn, Alpha Leonard has ordered you to stay in your room..."

"Don't worry. I have considered this issue carefully. I won't run away from the wedding. You can go and relay this message to him," I interrupted the guard impatiently.

My father's sole worry was that I would flee my wedding, so I would just have to show him that I had no intention of doing so. Right now, he was more focused on Sylvia and the other guests, and I was probably quite low on his priority list. Making this small sacrifice for a while to regain my freedom was not a big deal.

The guards had no choice but to follow my instructions and give my message to my father.

I turned on my heel and walked into the dressing room. I casually placed the pendant aside and changed into a white camisole dress.

I gently fingered the lace on the hemline of my dress and studied myself in the mirror, my thoughts running amok.

[Chapter 677 The Welcome Banquet](#)

Sylvia's POV:

Leonard took Rufus and I back to his residence, which was the castle area. Islands of large and small manors surrounded the castle. Leonard led us into the largest manor.

We were making our way when Edwin emerged from the heavy doors of the manor.

My hand holding Rufus', along with my whole body nailed to the ground, froze. I wanted to escape, but where to?

Rufus assured me that everything was fine by pinching my palm and smiling at me.

Contrary to how I reacted, Edwin trotted to us with a smile and told us that the banquet was ready, adding that Warren and Flora had fixed their wedding date.

My attention was stolen by his announcement. It was too fast. We just went out for a walk, but by the time we were back, Flora and Warren had met their parents and even decided to get married.

I remember Flora saying before that she wanted to end everything with Warren, but now she was even alright with marrying him. Everything happened in a flash.

Leonard was very happy with the news. "Warren is really different when he's matched with his true love. He's no longer an amateur lad when it comes to relationships."

Despite everything, I would admit Warren was awesome. On the other hand, I wondered how Flora was doing. She must have been in a trance.

While everyone was immersed in joy, Rufus spoke in my ear in the faintest of whispers. "They're going to get married."

Confusion bordered my face as I met his gaze. What did he mean?

Rufus sighed. "It's time for us to start planning ours."

I chortled and nudged him gently. "What are you talking about? You're getting ahead of yourself."

"Ahead of myself?" Rufus asked dejectedly. A frown started to crease on his forehead, and he seemed very dissatisfied with my response. "We can't delay it any longer."

Rufus pulled me in his arms and cupped my face before offering a kiss on my forehead. "Honey, do you really plan on making me wait? I'm getting old, and as you can see, a lot of my friends are already going to get married."

While Rufus was speaking, I caught a glimpse of Leonard from my periphery, looking at me with a cheeky smile spread across his face.

Blood rushed to my cheeks as I pushed him away. "Well, let's talk about it when we get back."

Rufus didn't seem to care if the others would hear us. He didn't let go of me and instead muttered in an aggrieved tone, "Then promise me that we will talk about our wedding when we go back."

In order to make him drop the topic for now, I had to nod. "Okay, I promise."

Although Rufus usually seemed cold, mature and steady, when it was just us two, he was like a spoiled child who would incessantly make a fuss about something until I gave in.

It seemed that I was the only one to whom he showed his true self, and it warmed my heart to know so. Still I wondered, were men all the same when they were in love?

Our group was about to join the banquet inside once Edwin and Leonard finished talking, but a guard rushed to their side and reported that Alina also wanted to come to the party. Hesitation flashed in Leonard's countenance for a moment before he nodded and permitted her entrance.

After the guard left, he turned to us and helplessly informed us, "I am aware that Alina doesn't want to be married off into another pack, not to mention she once thought of using Warren to get what she wanted. But since she wants to go to the party, I think it's a good chance to let her learn her place."

Rufus and I looked at each other, each mirroring the helplessness of the other. It would be best for Alina to give up on all her wishful thinking and started behaving herself, but the fear that Flora would be caught in the crossfire crept in our minds.

The only hopes I had for Alina were for her to stop causing troubles for everyone and find happiness by getting married in peace.

[Chapter 678 Fierce Eyes](#)

Sylvia's POV:

I felt my scalp tingle under Alina's intense gaze. I could tell that there was a glimmer of hatred in her eyes.

Didn't Leonard say she had been counting on Warren lately to get her out of her mess? If that truly was the case, why was she staring at me like that? Did she still have feelings for Rufus?

I thought with a frown as I took a good look at her eyes.

Alina's eyes were beautiful, and her irises were a shade of grayish-blue. She had always looked at people with a hint of innocence. She probably inherited the color of her eyes from her mother because Leonard's eyes were dark green. They almost looked black.

Her eyes would light up every time she smiled. I didn't think a resentful look suited her.

Alina smiled before looking away to greet everyone. At that point, she seemed like an elegant lady from a noble family.

I breathed a sigh of relief as soon as she turned away. Flora simply stood still as she murmured, "She's so scary sometimes."

After an exchange of pleasantries, Rufus was invited to sit in the main seat while Leonard sat on the first seat by the left. Opposite of him was Owen, followed by Edwin and Flora's parents.

Alina came there early and chose a seat on the other side of the long table.

I sat next to Leonard, alongside Flora and Warren.

"Your favorite baked banana is going to be served today," Leonard said, helping me arrange the tableware as he spoke.

I thanked him with a smile. I didn't expect him to remember that I liked baked bananas.

I poured Leonard a glass of wine as we casually chatted.

The atmosphere was harmonious while we talked, but when I looked over at Alina, I noticed that she was staring at me again.

The way she gazed at me made me uncomfortable. I could tell that there wasn't only hatred and resentment glimmering in her eyes. It was something else entirely.

I looked down and sat straight, trying to ignore her. A she-wolf's mind really was complicated.

Leonard seemed to have sensed something when he looked my way. He smiled to ease the tension in the atmosphere before saying, "Prince Rufus, it is a great honor to have you as our distinguish guest in the Silver Moon Pack. Please have a taste of the globefishes here. I'm sure you'll love it."

Rufus smiled. "Thank you. The globefishes in your pack are quite famous around these parts."

He laughed a lot in front of everyone today. His laughter made the atmosphere a lot more harmonious, and everyone was having a great time.

Everyone present had their eyes on him the entire time since he was the noble prince. He didn't radiate arrogance either, so naturally, the topic was all about him.

Flora's parents were quite talkative, and they didn't panic at all when they met the royal family—especially her mother, Hulda. In fact, she became so excited to meet the royal family that she almost tripped just to ask Rufus if she could have Ethan's signature.

Flora, who had been sitting next to me, giggled when she saw how her mother was acting. "I'm sure Prince Rufus must be confused. He probably didn't expect to meet a loyal fan of his father here."

[Chapter 679 Isolated](#)

Alina's POV:

Everyone was shocked by Sylvia's yelp. Rufus approached me with a frosty expression and grasped my wrist tightly. "What's in your hand? Show me!"

Pain lanced through my hand. I swallowed the fear that threatened to overwhelm me and curled my fingers more firmly around the object I was holding.

If Rufus saw it, he would kill me.

[Chapter 680 Conflic](#)

Alina's POV:

The gemstone in my palm was becoming progressively hotter. Tears unconsciously spilled from my eyes because of the burning sensation.

I swallowed a screamed and my body shook uncontrollably.

The truth had turned out to be so cruel.

I was a laughing stock.

This whole scenario was like a vile joke. Everything that I was proud of had shattered into pieces like glass.