

# Jojo and Coco's Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

## Chapter 121

### Chapter 121 A Flower Bud Waiting to Bloom

After a brief pause, Adam said rather shyly, "I wasn't aware that you were acquainted with Mr. Joseph and wanted to flirt with you when I saw how pretty you were. Of course, I don't dare to treat you that way now that I know."

Joseph prohibited him from doing so, let alone his father.

Hearing that, complicated feelings washed over Chloe. She had unspeakable feelings.

She made the right guess. As expected, it was because of Joseph.

After Adam hung up the call, he quickly sent Chloe a bunch of screenshots of his conversation with Ava. Although Ava appeared gentle and virtuous on the surface, she had sent such explicit messages to Adam.

Chloe pitied Jake when she saw the extent to which Ava had cheated on him. She just happened to spot Ava and Adam when they hooked up. There might be a lot of other men Ava had hooked up with without Chloe's knowledge.

After she finished reading the final chat log, Adam sent her a contact number. [This guy's an entertainment news reporter. Sis, you can send the screenshots to him if you don't want to

send them to Ava's fiance.]

Chloe replied, [Won't Mr. Alexander beat you up if he learns that you ruin your reputation this way?]

Adam answered, [I can easily clear my name if I want to, but it'll be very difficult for Ava to do

so.]

That was right. It was fine if she could not clear her name, but she would lose her marriage. Both the Coopers and the Johnsons would no longer maintain their cooperation. If there were a lot of interests involved between both families, they might fall out with each other.

At night, Chloe tossed and turned in bed, dwelling on it. After that, she sent Ava parts of the screenshots.

Joseph kept his promise. The next day, he transferred Chloe to the marketing department.

The atmosphere there was great. It was nothing like Baxon, where many private fights were taking place even though everything looked peaceful on the surface.

Chloe's direct superior was a pregnant lady who was five months pregnant. She appeared gentle and motherly. But on the contrary, she worked decisively and resolutely.

Chloe realized that Fairlight was far more awesome than she had anticipated. Its business

covered many industries.

Finance was Fairlight's main business. It was also involved in healthcare, resource development, project contracting, real estate, and so on.

As a comprehensive company, it was not strange. But the key was Fairlight did a great job in all these various industries. On top of that, Joseph managed to achieve these results in just one or two years after taking over the company.

At first, the company was on the verge of bankruptcy. Joseph managed to bring it back to life and turn it into a legend in the business world. Besides that, he did such a good job of it. He

was indeed a rare talent.

Chloe began to admire Joseph. Of course, admiration was all she had for him.

"Chloe, please help me deliver this document to Mr. Joseph's assistant. Ask him his opinion on it and report back to me," Wendy Jensen, Chloe's direct superior, instructed as she handed at

document to her.

“Okay.” Accepting the document, she quickly went to deal with it.

Chloe had just begun working there, so no task was assigned to her yet. She just simply needed to run errands. While getting to know the company, she could become familiar with her colleagues too.

It was easy to locate Lucas’ office. Both his and Joseph’s offices were located on the top floor.

Lucas flipped through the document and frowned. “I can’t make a decision about this. You should ask Mr. Joseph.”

Chloe was slightly stunned. “Which of us should go?”

Generally, Lucas would help deliver documents to Joseph during this sort of situation.

However, Lucas wished that Joseph would have a family soon and enjoy a life full of happiness.

Hence, he said to Chloe, “You should go. I need to go downstairs for something.”

“Okay.”

Chloe behaved all business-like and knocked on Joseph’s office door.

“Sir, I’m here to deliver a document to you.”

Joseph heard Chloe’s clear and pleasant voice. His charming eyes remained calm. Although he was still staring at the computer screen, his attention was not on it.

“Come in.”

Chloe gently pushed the door open and entered Joseph’s office. She then placed the document on the upper right corner of his office desk and waited quietly.

Joseph took in her slim and curvy body from the corner of his eyes. She was wearing a pleated

skirt coupled with a white T-shirt. That was the first time she was dressed in such a youthful manner.

She looked young and lively-like a flower bud waiting to bloom.

One would inevitably feel the desire to take her when gazing upon her.

Feeling his throat get stuck, Joseph gulped. Surprisingly, he recalled what nearly happened the other night. It turned out that he cherished that memory.

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**Score 9.5**

Chapter 122 Family Friends

After a while, Joseph finally looked up from his computer screen and absent-mindedly picked

the document to read.

up

He smoothly signed his name at the end of the document with steady penmanship.

"There's no problem. It can be carried out."

Chloe nodded and retrieved the document before she replied properly, "Okay, I'll be going now, sir."

However, a strong force opened the door before she reached it.

A domineering and attractive woman was standing outside. She strutted into the office in her high heels.

The woman was meticulous in her attire. Her clothes were customized designs by famous designers, so they were very expensive.

There were four strong and muscular bodyguards behind her. At a glance, it could be seen that they were well-trained.

Chloe was frightened and hastily took a step back.

"Joseph, your grandfather told me that you're married!" Jane Fox stared at Joseph in disbelief

and evident sadness. "Say it isn't true."

Joseph's black eyes turned ice-cold as he said, "Get lost."

"No! I want you to tell me that you're not married!"

Standing in the corner, Chloe pursed her lips. 'If I were to hazard a guess, this woman is this jerk's admirer.'

"Okay, I'll tell you. I am married. Is there anything else you would like to ask?" Joseph crossed

his arms in front of his chest, iciness written all over his handsome face.

Jane looked like she had received a fatal blow. It took her a while to regain her composure after suffering that great shock.

"Who is she?"

Consequently, Chloe became nervous. Seeing how overbearing Jane was, she tiptoed to sneak out of the office, not wanting to get into trouble.

Joseph narrowed his black eyes and looked at Chloe before he cracked a wicked smile. He then pointed at her. "She's the one."

Chloe's body stiffened as she clenched her fists tightly. She felt like rushing over to punch him.

'Is he out of his mind?! Does he want to make it worse?!

Jane then noticed another person in the office. When she looked over, she became vigilant.

Chloe was dressed like a student and looked extremely young, only in her early twenties. She looked pure and bright. Her legs peeking out from under her pleated skirt were slim and straight.

Her whole being was full of youthfulness and liveliness.

On the contrary, Jane was the same age as Joseph. A twenty-eight-year-old woman had no advantages in comparison. Although her family background was good and she was rich, Joseph was also a wealthy man.

Jane's expression changed. She walked over and sized Chloe up. She then faked a smile. "This is the woman you found out there?"

"Tsk! Why did she say such a weird thing? Those who don't know any better will think that I'm the homewrecker who ruined the relationship between her and Joseph.'

A hint of annoyance surfaced in Chloe's heart. As she watched Joseph sitting on the chair leisurely, a thought dawned on her, and she suddenly threw herself into his arms.

"Jojo, I'm not the woman you found outside. We're a couple that's married to each other openly."

Caught off guard, Joseph's body stiffened. He looked down at the woman in his arms. Her body was tender and smelled good, and a tinge of distress showed on her fair face.

Unconsciously, he placed his hand on her waist and hugged her.

As a result, Jane was infuriated. She raised her voice and screamed at Chloe to get out of Joseph's arms.

Chloe blinked innocently. "Miss, I'm hugging my husband. Why should I get out of his arms?"

While talking, she clung to his neck. “Darling, do you let me hug you?”

Joseph chuckled. Being a handsome man, both the women found it hard to breathe when they saw his smile.

He lowered his head and vaguely placed his thin lips against Chloe’s earlobe. “Who else should hug me if not you, hmm?”

The raised syllable he uttered at the end was magnetic and seductive, tempting people vehemently.

Chloe blushed as she stared at Joseph with shining eyes. Her heartbeat quickened.

“This b\*stard is so good at flirting!!

Jane’s expression turned livid. If looks could kill, Chloe might be dead by now.

She glared at Chloe fiercely. “This is an office where people work. You can’t behave in such a manner. How crass!”

“Oh, the office...” Chloe stretched her words and smiled shyly. “I’m sure you’re not aware of some special hobbies Jojo fancy. He simply loves role-playing.”

Jane wanted nothing more than to strangle Chloe to death. She was fuming with anger as she said, “Joseph, this woman doesn’t look like a decent woman. She’s a tramp. She has no right to be a part of the Whitman family!”

Chloe was stupefied. She then looked Jane up and down and covered her mouth to laugh.” Well, you look like a pretty good match for him.”

After a brief pause, a smug look appeared on Jane’s face. “Of course, the Foxes and the Whitmans are longtime family friends.”

“But it’s a shame...”

“What is?”

Chloe touched her chin. “It’s a pity that you’re old. You look to be in your thirties. If you marry Jojo, you’ll be an old pregnant lady giving birth to babies

after you've finished organizing the wedding, getting married, preparing to get pregnant, and finally getting pregnant.

"But I'm different. I'm still young. It's not a problem for me to give birth to even a few babies.

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## Score 9.5

Chapter 123 Helping Him Deal With His Crazy Admirer

"Shut up,

b\*tch!"

Jane was fuming with so much anger that her body shook. She would have slapped Chloe if Joseph was not hugging Chloe in his arms.

Joseph stared at Jane and frowned. "Watch your tongue. My wife is right."

"Do you want to spoil her so?"

"Is there a problem with me spoiling my

wife?"

As a result, Jane found it hard to breathe. She glared at Chloe with envy.

"What kind of evil means did you use to seduce Joseph?"

Jane had liked Joseph since childhood. Although he did not reciprocate her feelings, he treated her nicely because of the relationship between their families.

This was the first time he was defending someone so openly.

Chloe tilted her head. Not angered in the slightest, she ruminated over the matter seriously. "I didn't use any evil means. I simply asked Jojo for his number, and he decided to marry me. He probably fell in love with me at first sight."



“That’s true, isn’t it?”

‘I did hit on him, but I only did it once. He was the one who suggested we get married.’

Hence, Chloe was not lying.

At that moment, Jane’s face became distorted out of fury. She looked toward Joseph. “Are you sure you want me to treat me this way?”

Joseph remained calm and slowly looked up at her. “Can you get out of here now?”

Jane took a deep breath. She was on the verge of going berserk.

Noticing this, her bodyguards were scared. Jane had a bad temper, and she got angry easily. The reason she could stand to be there for long and not leave was simply because she liked Joseph that much.

Chloe clung to Joseph. She was also worried that Jane would go berserk.

Joseph felt her fear. After a moment of hesitation, he silently patted her back repeatedly to

console her.

Surprisingly, Jane held herself back. She put on an arrogant expression and raised her chin high. “Let me be frank with you. I’ve known Joseph since childhood. Our elders are good friends. I’m the one who’s most suitable to be his wife.”

“If you were suitable, why didn’t Grandpa ask you to marry Jojo?”

In comparison to Joseph, Chloe had more confidence in Harold. She knew very well that Harold was sincerely nice to her.

However, Jane was stunned. “You’ve met Mr. Harold?”

Chloe raised her chest in slight pride. “What’s more, Grandpa is always urging me to conceive

Jojo’s baby.”

Luckily, Jane grew up in a large family. She soon calmed down and said profoundly, "It's normal for him to want grandkids. My stand remains unmoved. Think about it carefully. Marriages should be between people who share equal social rank. Can you guarantee that Joseph will like you forever even if he likes you now?"

In short, one's family background was the most important factor for people from large, powerful families when choosing a life partner.

After that, Jane no longer pestered them. She casually ordered one of her bodyguards to hand her business card to Chloe.

Jane Fox.

She was the eldest daughter of the family that owned the Alpire Group. Her father was the president of a company worth tens of billions while her mother was the daughter of an aristocrat. She possessed the background of a typical storybook heroine.

However, Chloe cracked a teasing smile. Others might feel very self-abased and inferior if they faced such a rival in love but not her. It was because she knew that they were not love rivals.

Joseph fancied neither Jane nor Chloe.

"Did you suffer a blow?"

Joseph was leaning in close to Chloe and thus spoke with his lips almost against her ear. She tilted her head and dodged him because she was not used to it. Feeling awkward, she struggled

out of his arms.

"We're just acting. I won't suffer a blow if I don't take it seriously."

At Chloe's sudden change in attitude, Joseph knitted his brows hard. He then snorted. "You didn't say that when you tried your best to get into bed with me."

When he mentioned the unbearable memory, she blushed embarrassedly. "It's difficult to get into bed with you. I'm unworthy!"

She then grabbed the document and left in a fit of humiliation and anger.

'Motherf\*cking b\*stard! Why did he mention that abominable incident?

'I shouldn't have helped him deal with his crazy admirer!'

Graham Villa.

After partying for a whole night, Adam was now sound asleep. His phone, which he was

sleeping on, vibrated incessantly. After an unknown period, he reacted at last and picked up the phone to answer it.

"Who is it?"

He hated two kinds of people in this world-those who snatched others' money and those who disturbed others' sleep.

"Why did you send screenshots of our conversation to Chloe?" Ava asked, her voice filled with indignation. "Do you know what kind of relationship she has with your father? Why...Why did you do this to me?"

When Adam heard her question, he sobered up a little. "Tell me. What kind of relationship does she have with my father?"

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**Score 9.5**

Chapter 124 Coco Framed Me

Ava took a deep breath and said meaningfully, "Are you really unaware of it?"

"I don't know anything. Spill it."

"Your father and Chloe are engaged in an abnormal relationship."

"What's abnormal about it?"

"Why are you so clueless?" Ava's tone was firm. "Did your relationship with Chloe stem from your father?"

Adam pushed his blanket aside and rubbed his eyes. "Yeah, that's right."

He would have asked for Chloe's contact number no matter what if his father had not noticed

that Chloe and Joseph were a couple. Of course, everyone loved bright and charming women.

Unexpectedly, Ava misunderstood the way Alexander was related to Chloe. After some pondering, she did not dare to get straight to the point.

"I grew up with Chloe, so I know her character best. Previously, I saw her get into an old man's car. Her relationships with others are rather complicated."

Adam was slightly stunned. For a moment, he did not think about it from that angle.

"What nonsense are you talking about? Say something I can understand."

As long as they were from a slightly rich family in Aesper, the young men would generally be inexperienced. So, the drivers their family hired were usually middle-aged men.

Ava became slightly anxious. She simply went straight to the point. "I think your father is having an affair with Chloe."

Adam was struck dumb before a deep disgust overwhelmed him. His buddies were right. He should be picky when choosing women in the future. He could not sleep with literally any beautiful woman.

It was fine if they were dumb, but they could not be schematic and cunning.

Ava heard no replies, so she assumed he had received a blow because of her words. Feeling smug, she smiled but maintained a concerned tone on the surface.

"Don't be sad. Try exposing this affair to your mother and let her deal with Chloe. But please don't be too harsh on Chloe since she's my younger sister. It's normal for young people to do the wrong thing."

Adam was rendered speechless before he asked, "Are you dumb?"

Why is Ava slandering her own sister?

'How wicked!'

"Mr. Adam, why did you scold me..." Ava was confused and started crying piteously. "Don't scold me even if you hate my sister."

"Stupid b\*tch!"

After hanging up the call, Adam blacklisted her number.

'Oh, gosh! What bad luck! She's the most wretched woman I've ever slept with.'

When Ava heard the call drop, she was baffled. She slowly regained her wits after Jake sent her

a text.

[I found a particularly good Estrenian restaurant. I booked a table there for tonight. I'll be waiting for you.]

Ava had not met Jake for a week now. Besides, it seemed unlikely that she would gain the support of the powerful Graham family. Hence, she decided to pacify Jake at the moment.

She sent him a reply.

[Okay, love you.]

Ava entered the Estrenian restaurant at seven o'clock at night. Its environment, ambiance, and service were pretty good.

Jake presented her with a bouquet of roses he had prepared and stated tenderly, "What happened the other day was all my fault. I shouldn't have argued with you. Don't be mad, okay?"

and I've waited for you for so many days."

"I'm no longer mad. You didn't come to find me, and I've waited for Ava rolled her eyes at him reproachfully. After she accepted the bouquet, she sniffed it. "It smells so good."

Jake attentively pulled a chair out for her. "I'll buy one every day if you'd like me to."

“You’re so good to me.”

The fresh flowers, candlelight dinner, and the handsome man sitting across from her made Ava feel at ease. At least Jake was good to her. On top of that, he was handsome too. It was just that he was not as rich as the Grahams.

When they were almost finished with their meal, Jake held Ava’s hand in slight

embarrassment. “You’ll stay with me forever, won’t you?”

“Of course.”

“Well, I have something to tell you.”

“Me too.”

They looked at each other before Jake let Ava speak first.

She bit her lip before bursting into tears. “Coco, she... She framed me with someone’s help.”

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## **Score 9.5**

### Chapter 125 Planning to Confess One’s Love

Jake’s expression changed. He immediately consoled her. “There, there. Take your time and tell me everything.”

Ava sobbed as if she had suffered a great grievance. She could not even speak properly. “Chloe maliciously photoshopped some pictures to threaten me.”

As she said this, she turned on her phone and showed him the chat logs that Chloe had sent

her.

After Jake read them, he felt a tinge of disbelief. “This chat log doesn’t seem to be photoshopped...”

“So you think I’m this kind of person?” Ava burst into aggrieved tears. “It’s a well-known fact that Mr. Adam is a playboy. Why would I hook up with him?”

Jake’s heart softened at her words. After struggling for a few seconds, he chose to believe her. After comforting her, he told her the things that he had been holding back for a few days.

“You know that my dad wants to build a company for me, but we need money right now. Can you please use your dowry to help me out first?”

He had no choice since his uncle did not want to lend him the money. Hence, he could only do what his uncle asked.

She instinctively retracted her hand while facing his extremely expectant gaze. She answered awkwardly, “I can’t decide on this. I have to discuss it with my dad.”

Jake breathed a sigh of relief. He hugged her excitedly. “I’ll wait for your good news.”

He was not wrong about her. His fiancée was willing to help him.

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At Fairlight.

When one was busy, time passed quickly.

Chloe spent the day getting to know her colleagues in the same department as her. After finishing her work for the day, she received a text from Icarus asking if she was free.

After missing the meetup with him the other day because Harold was hospitalized, she became busy with work at Fairlight. Hence, she had not contacted him for a few days.

Chloe did not turn him down and promised to meet him at a cafe on the ground floor of Fairlight’s office building. Of course, she told Joseph about it for fear that he might make things difficult for her again.

Icarus was sitting near the window of the cafe. He was wearing a shirt and a vest coupled with

suit pants. His gold-rimmed glasses were a nice touch to his appearance, making him appear gentle and refined. His attire perfectly showcased his charms as a mature man.

Chloe arrived just on time. "You're here early."

"It's fine. I just got here." Icarus pushed a cup of hot chocolate toward her and asked curiously, "Why did you ask me to meet you at this cafe below Fairlight?"

At first, he had planned to bring her to an art exhibition before heading to a romantic restaurant. Then lastly, he would confess his love for her while driving her home.

"Oh, I'm working at Fairlight now."

"Hmm?" Icarus froze. He was extremely shocked. "Didn't you tell me you were going to work at a small company?"

Chloe held her forehead helplessly and tried to beat around the bush. "Umm, there was a change of plans."

She had presumed it was just a small company.

Icarus did not understand her, but he could tell that she was reluctant to dwell on the matter. Thus, he ended the topic and asked considerately, "Did you just get off work? Are you hungry? Let me take you out for a meal. We can chat while eating."

"I'm not hungry. We can just chat here."

"Umm, okay."

He could not force her since she disagreed. However, he felt that it was too informal to confess his love in a cafe, finding it rather weird.

Chloe noticed something strange about him, so she pursed her lips and spoke first. "Is Jake your nephew?"

Icarus was slightly stunned. His gaze turned complicated. "You know everything?"

"Mm-hm, I learned about it recently. Why didn't you tell me?"



“I was worried that it would affect our relationship, but I did help teach him a lesson.” Icarus said solemnly, “I won’t let him bully you ever again. Don’t let him affect our relationship, okay?”

For a moment, complicated feelings emerged in Chloe’s heart. She believed that Icarus had taught Jake a lesson. Otherwise, Jake would not have reacted so strongly previously.

She did not marry Jake’s uncle, but the one who helped her deal with the scumbag was still Jake’s uncle.

“No, that won’t happen.”

She believed that Icarus was a reasonable man who could differentiate right from wrong.

#### Chapter 125 Planning to Confess One’s Love

“Great. Allow me to apologize to you for everything Jake did to you in the past. He isn’t so lucky to have you since you guys broke up with each other.”

Chloe’s lips twitched before she cracked a sarcastic smile. “Well, that’s true. If he was as smart as you, things wouldn’t have turned out this way.”

Ava cheated on Jake to such an outrageous extent, but Jake still believed that Ava was the gentlest and most virtuous woman in the world.

Being a smart man, Icarus instantly discerned the underlying meaning of her words. “Do you know something? Can you tell me about it?”

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### **Score 9.5**

#### Chapter 126 A Different Joseph From Imagined

Chloe fell silent, reflecting upon the support Icarus had provided her thus far.

She made up her mind to inform him about Ava’s deceitful actions.

As Icarus heard the details, fury ignited within him.

“My nephew’s a fool!” Icarus exclaimed, his anger evident.

Chloe shrugged and replied, "Feel free to tell him that yourself. If I were to tell him, he might see it as me defaming Ava."

This is why she had been hesitant to confront Jake, as her efforts had gone unappreciated, and furthermore, leaving her entangled in a messy situation.

"Thank you, Chloe. Jake will surely regret his actions," Icarus expressed his gratitude.

"It doesn't matter to me whether he regrets it or not," Chloe replied nonchalantly.

Icarus observed her indifferent demeanor with great joy. Despite the circumstances, she no longer held any feelings for Jake. However, he believed that confessing at this point would be considered too hasty.

During a restroom break, Icarus discreetly handed a tip to the waiter and asked him to

purchase a bouquet of flowers. Upon his return, he also acquired a slice of cake for Chole from

the counter.

"Thank you." Chloe expressed slight surprise at his small gesture, although she did not attach too much significance to it.

She accepted the cake, slowly savoring small bites. The delicate cream melted on her tongue, and she closed her eyes, experiencing a sense of relief from the day's exhaustion.

Across the cafe, Joseph, having just finished dinner with his business partner, parked his car by the roadside. His dark eyes locked onto the woman inside, brimming with anger. His knuckles clenched tightly, emitting a cracking sound, as he witnessed Chloe's blissful expression.

Lucas' heart sank, and he silently sent a prayer to God. He had failed his role as a wingman miserably. He had exhausted all his efforts to convince Mr. Joseph to purchase sweet treats for Chloe in hopes of mending their relationship.

But before even entering the shop, they were confronted with this dreadful scene.

'May the heavens protect me. I'm innocent!' Lucas pleaded internally, hoping that Mr. Joseph's anger would not be directed at him.

Joseph's sudden outburst of anger left Lucas bewildered and unable to quell the tension in the air. Oblivious to the traffic lights, Joseph hastened his steps and stormed into the cafe.

"Tsk, taking a break from work to go on a date?" Joseph sneered at Chloe in a strange tone as he gazed down at her.

Icarus' eyes

lit up when he saw Joseph.

"Mr. Joseph," he greeted warmly.

Ever since Joseph's speech at the financial forum, half of the industry knew him as the legendary figure set to take over Fairlight. Icarus would have attended the forum himself, but unforeseen circumstances had caused him to miss it.

"Why are you here?" Chloe set down the cake and regarded Joseph, sensing the displeasure etched on his face. She hesitated for a moment before altering her tone, "Mr. Joseph, I've finished my tasks. Ms. Jensen allowed me to leave work."

She implied that she had not been neglecting her duties, so there was no need to go searching

for faults.

Lucas felt an overwhelming urge to bang his head against the wall at the lack of self-preservation in her response. Acting swiftly, he stepped in to defuse the situation. "Mr. Joseph came in to buy some desserts as gifts, not to talk about work. By the way, are you also in the finance industry, sir? You look familiar."

"Yes, I established a financial education foundation abroad and even did a little promotion for

it.” Icarus smiled.

Joseph shifted his gaze to Icarus. “The Daedalus Foundation?”

“That’s right.” Icarus smiled and nodded. “I sent you an invitation.”

Lucas explained that Joseph had been busy at the time and could not attend and thus had sent his blessings instead.

“Speaking of that time...” Joseph began, his gaze shifting toward the vacant spot beside Chloe. A forced smile appeared on his face as he asked, “Do you mind if I sit down and join you for a conversation?”

Icarus nodded. “Certainly. Miss, could you bring two additional chairs please?”

He intended to leave soon, with the hope of not disrupting his impending confession to Chloe.

“No need. Just scooch over a little,” Joseph suggested as he moved closer to Chloe’s side.

The seat was designed for only one person, and even though Chloe had a slender figure, the space became incredibly cramped. Their bodies were pressed tightly together, creating the image of a reunited couple who could not bear to be apart.

Chloe found herself enveloped in a unique and chilly fragrance as if she had stumbled into a man’s embrace that was both possessive and intimate. A giant question mark formed above her head. “Are you trying to squeeze me to death?”

## Chapter 126 A Different Joseph From Imagined

“Not to that extent, silly. I think it’s just right, don’t you?” Joseph responded nonchalantly, his face displaying no emotional fluctuations.

Icarus was left speechless by this unexpected action. Joseph was far from what he had imagined.

The only one left standing, Lucas, awkwardly touched his nose. He glanced at the cramped space next to Icarus’s seat and promptly requested the waiter to

bring an additional chair. It was just too strange for two men to squeeze together.

Chloe was practically squished to the point where she could not move comfortably, let alone enjoy her cake. She rubbed her temples, feeling a bit suffocated, and said to Icarus, "I just remembered I have some unfinished work. I'll have to leave now."

"Is it urgent?" Icarus pondered his confession, weighing whether he should accompany her

outside to see her off.

Chloe cast a glance at Joseph, who had a sly smile on his face. She gritted her teeth in frustration. "Yes, it's extremely urgent!"

"Then I'll walk you out."

"No need. I'm also going back to the office. We're heading in the same direction." Joseph stood up at the opportune moment and casually hooked his pinky finger around Chloe's.

Neither Icarus nor Lucas noticed this subtle gesture due to the angle.

Chloe, on the other hand, had a look of utter disbelief. Her almond-shaped eyes widened in shock. "Wh-What in the world are you doing?"

Why did he touch her hand?!

And he's even holding onto it!

Chapter 127 Intoxicated Surrender

Icarus was puzzled. "What's the matter?"

Just as Chloe was about to shake off Joseph's hand, he swiftly released it, leaving her feeling perplexed.

"It's nothing. I should get going" Joseph casually straightened his tie, acting as if nothing had occurred. His cool, phoenix-like eyes shifted toward Icarus.

"Lucas, why don't you chat with Mr. Icarus?"

have a

Lucas' reluctance was clearly visible on his face. His mind was focused on Mr. Joseph, while Mr. Joseph only had eyes for Ms. Chloe. Well, it was just a mistake, after all.

Deep inside, Icarus remained silent, unable to find the right words.

'There's really no need. Please just leave quickly.'

As soon as Chloe and Joseph departed, the cafe's waiter returned with the flowers.

Lucas stared at the blossoms, his gaze frozen. He cautiously inquired, "Mr. Icarus, were you planning to confess to Ms. Chloe?"

Icarus faintly smiled, neither confirming nor denying it, keeping his response ambiguous.

Chloe stepped into the elevator with the intention of going back to her department, but Joseph joined her and swiftly canceled her button press, selecting the highest floor instead.

"What are you doing?"

"What's your relationship with Icarus?"

"We're just friends."

"Friends?" Joseph sneered. "Do you think I'm blind?"

"That old man had a clear look of mischief in his eyes!"

Chloe could not fathom why Joseph was angry again. Despite carefully considering various possibilities, she was unable to pinpoint the exact reason. Nonetheless, she was determined not to initiate an argument.

Arguments only strained relationships and squandered emotions.

With a gentle tone, she gazed at Joseph with clear, calm eyes and asked, "Have I done something to upset you?"

As their gazes locked, Joseph, typically articulate, found himself at a loss for words in the face of her uncertainty. He struggled to find a fitting response, and his frustration transformed

into irritability.

In a moment of impulsiveness, he exclaimed, “You’re legally my wife. It isn’t appropriate for you to meet privately with other men.”

‘Here we go again.’ The corners of Chloe’s mouth twitched, and she could not help but let out

a scoff.

“But we were in a public place-right here in the company building. If our relationship is as you suspect, wouldn’t it be better for us to go to a cafe further away from here or a hotel?”

The word “hotel” seemed to strike a nerve. Flames of anger instantly ignited in Joseph’s heart. “Is it appropriate for a woman like you to constantly bring up such indecent topics?”

Chloe pouted in protest, unconvinced. “It’s not me. You always misunderstand me. When will you learn from Icarus? He has a great temperament and never loses his temper with others.”

Ding

As the elevator doors opened, Joseph’s fury consumed his rationality. He forcefully grabbed hold of Chloe and marched toward the office, paying no heed to her struggles. The delicate and fair skin of her wrists bore red marks from his grip.

With a resounding slam, Joseph shut the door behind them. In the next instant, he harshly gripped her chin, forcing her to meet his gaze. His voice took on a deep and mysterious tone.

“Do you find Icarus’s personality appealing?”

Chloe met his gaze defiantly, refusing to yield. “Yes, I do. And it’s not just me. Everyone likes him. Why would anyone like someone with a temper as horrible as yours-”

But before she could finish her sentence, Joseph abruptly covered her mouth with his, leaving Chloe wide-eyed and staring at the man standing inches

away from her. At that moment, she forgot to resist, finding herself frozen in place. 1

Seizing the opportunity, Joseph used his tongue to pry open her lips and passionately his tongue with hers. Last time, Chloe had taken the initiative, and this time was an entirely different experience.

The unfamiliar sensation enveloped them, causing them to surrender willingly.

Chloe's hands pressed against Joseph's chest, but involuntarily, they softened. Her entire body craved his embrace, devoid of any strength to resist. It was as if she were intoxicated, mentally aware but physically weak.

To their surprise, the sound of the door opening went unnoticed, lost in the depths of their embrace.

Thud!

Lucas fumbled and dropped the box of pastries he was holding, creating a loud noise that

Chapter 127 Intoxicated Surrender

broke the moment.

"S-Sorry for the interruption!" he stammered, covering his eyes and trembling with fear.

'It's over! I've ruined Mr. Joseph's private moment!'

Chloe snapped back to reality, pushing Joseph away in disbelief. Her face flushed crimson, her body engulfed in heat, and she felt a deep sense of embarrassment washing over her.

In contrast, Joseph remained remarkably composed. He raised a finger to his lips, tracing them meaningfully, his gaze and actions exuding an enchanting allure.

For the first time ever, he did not get angry at Lucas. His gaze shifted to the fallen pastries on the floor as he spoke in a magnetic and hoarse voice, "Get us some more."



“Right away, sir. I’ll go right now.” Lucas secretly breathed a sigh of relief and hurriedly made his exit as if being pursued by a relentless hound.

The spacious office was once again engulfed in silence. It unsettled Chloe greatly, prompting her to grab her bag with the intention of making a swift escape.

“Where do you think you’re going?” Joseph’s long arm extended, halting her in her tracks, his raised eyebrow expressing a mix of curiosity and authority.

Jojo and Coco’s Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

## **Score 9.5**

### Chapter 128 A Dowry Is a Woman’s Pre-marital Asset

“I’m going home!”

“Ah, what a coincidence. Shall we?”

Chloe took a deep breath, mustering a smile as she said, “Joseph, are you trying to prevent me from leaving because you desire my body?”

“Hah, can’t I use the same excuse on you? After all, you didn’t resist, and it seemed like were enjoying it,” Joseph retorted.

Chloe was momentarily speechless, taken aback by his quick-witted response. Feeling at mixture of embarrassment and frustration, she found him shamelessly clever. She grinned and countered, “Yes. After all, you were the one who took the initiative this time.”

you

Upon hearing her words, a fleeting expression of unease crossed Joseph’s usually composed and handsome face, and he let out a light snort. “As you wish.”

In this verbal skirmish, neither of them emerged as the clear victor.

Chloe shot him a fierce glare before retreating to the office restroom to compose herself. In front of the mirror, her face bloomed like a peach blossom, her eyes shimmering with moisture. The collar of her clothes had

shifted slightly, and the smudged lipstick on her lips. exuded a subtle allure that was difficult to define.

Feeling a mix of shyness and anger, Chloe swiftly reached for a tissue and wiped off her lipstick. She lingered in the restroom for a while, collecting her thoughts, before finally coming out.

Standing by the window, Joseph's gaze swept over her face. He walked toward her with confident strides, teasingly remarking, "I thought you had moved in there for good."

Chloe rolled her eyes in exasperation. "You're really annoying to talk to."

Despite his handsome face, she could not fathom why he could not utter a single kind word.

Joseph paused for a moment, a mocking smile tugging at his lips. "So, who would you rather choose? Me or Icarus?"

Chloe found his question absurd and chose to ignore it, pushing the door open without a response.

At the entrance, she noticed a box of pastries with familiar packaging from the cafe downstairs. It was undoubtedly bought by Lucas. She glanced outside and inquired, "Where's Lucas?"

Joseph responded in a hushed tone, "He's afraid of interrupting us, so he left."

Chloe silently rolled her eyes once again, refraining from further comment.

The lights in the Cooper residence shone brightly that night.

Jake clutched Icarus' hand tightly and pleaded in a bitter tone, "Uncle, why do you believe in Chloe, a stranger, instead of trusting me? Ava is about to hand over her dowry to me. She's not the person you imagine her to be. Those chat records are all fabricated."

Icarus gazed at his stubbornly oblivious nephew with an indescribable sense of

disappointment. "You may see Chloe as a stranger, but have you ever considered that she was once someone you wholeheartedly cared for?"

Embarrassment washed over Jake's face. "Perhaps I used the wrong words, but Uncle, please don't show those screenshots to my parents. I'll have my own company soon. I beg you, please.

"

This was Jake's sole opportunity to inherit the family fortune. If he could successfully manage his own company, his father might entrust the family's businesses to him too.

However, he could not comprehend why Chloe would single him out in this way. If her feelings for him had changed from love to hate, she should have silently supported him instead of acting in such a manner.

"You're willing to put up with Ava's infidelity and allow her to make you look like a fool just for the sake of personal gain?" Icarus angrily rebuked, "Even if you can overlook it, I can't associate myself with someone of that nature."

After uttering those words, he pushed Jake away, determined to confront Jake's mother about the situation.

Witnessing this, Jake immediately dropped to his knees before Icarus. "Uncle, please don't go. If you tell my mother, she'll force me to break up with Ava. Ava has promised to transfer the money to me tomorrow. I just need one more night. Tomorrow. Tomorrow will be sufficient. I'll make you believe wholeheartedly that our love is genuine."

Since Jake entered university, Icarus had rarely meddled in his personal affairs. He believed that his nephew possessed solid values, albeit a strong desire for fame and accomplishment. Now it seemed that he had overestimated his nephew.

Relying on others as a means to achieve success in his career was a futile endeavor destined for failure.

"Do as you wish. Don't come crying to me when things go south," Icarus uttered icily before storming out, the sound of the slamming door echoing through the room.

Caught in a bewildered haze, Jake stood frozen, losing all sense of time. The ache in his knees grew more pronounced, and he gingerly rose to his feet, relying on the support of the ground. Discomfort permeated his heart as he

aimlessly wandered through the courtyard, seeking solace and clarity for his troubled mind.

Coincidentally, Jamie Cooper, Jake's younger brother, who had just returned home, spotted him and approached with a friendly demeanor. "Jake, why are you still up at this hour? Is something bothering you?"

"No need to concern yourself," Jake replied dismissively, not in the mood for conversation.

"I'm just looking out for you," Jamie replied, rolling his eyes. "Hey, did Ava send you the money? Dad has everything lined up with our business partners for next quarter, and they'll be counting on you. Make sure you don't mess it up at the last minute."

"You can trust that I'll handle it just fine. Focus on your own matters," Jake retorted.

Jamie chuckled, a hint of disdain crossing his eyes.

'Disgusting. Relying on others is nothing to be proud of.'

The next day, Jake, barely having made it through the night, immediately went to the Johnsons.

To his surprise, Ava wore a remorseful expression as she delivered the news, "Jake, Daddy informed me that all the family's money has been invested in a project. I can't help you." Jake stood there dumbfounded. "Even your dowry?"

Ava hesitated for a moment before reluctantly replying, "Yes."

"How is that possible?"

They had only been engaged for less than half a month, and Benjamin had transferred the dowry to Ava on the day of their engagement. It seemed implausible that they had found a suitable project and invested the money within such a short period.

'Unless,' Jake speculated, 'the Johnsons had orchestrated this long before our engagement took place.'

"It's true," Ava admitted, her voice filled with guilt and helplessness. "You know that father holds all the power in my family."

my

Jake grabbed his hair in frustration. “Everything took a sudden turn from what we agreed on. What am I supposed to do now?”

“Jake, I really want to help you, but it’s not as simple as you think. You should understand that a dowry is considered a woman’s pre-marital assets.”

Upon hearing her words, realization dawned on Jake, and he blurted out, “So you never had any intention of helping me from the beginning?”

## Chapter 129 Ava’s One-Sided Breakup

“I never said that.”

“But that’s what you think.”

Ava scoffed. “Fine. If you’re going to see me in a negative light, then we have nothing more to discuss. Just go, please.”

With those words, the Johnsons’ housekeeper swiftly appeared and escorted Jake out of the villa. Everything unfolded in a whirlwind, and Jake realized his father had called, pressuring him to finalize the investment funds.

“Dad, I’ve encountered an unexpected situation here. Give me a few more days. I’ll settle everything by then.”

“You can’t even seize an opportunity when it’s right in front of you. How about I give you one year to handle it? Would that be enough? Don’t bother coming to the office tomorrow.”

Jake’s breath caught in his throat, his hand trembled, and his phone slipped from his grasp, crashing to the ground. It felt as though the world was crumbling around him.

Not long after, Ava unleashed a bombshell on the Internet.

She published a lengthy thread discussing three matters.

The first was about her one-sided breakup with Jake, and the second was an accusation against Chloe for concocting and spreading false, damaging information about her, tarnishing her reputation. The third matter was to clarify her relationship with Adam, emphasizing that he was a respectable and

honorable man who would never haphazardly share their private conversations.

To support her claims, she attached screenshots of the chat logs Chole had sent. Although Adam's profile picture remained unaltered, the chat content had been manipulated and twisted into vulgar and explicit language, clearly displaying signs of manipulation through photo editing.

Ava, with thousands of followers on Twitter, typically shared exquisite photos of afternoon teas or meticulously edited selfies, presenting herself as a flawless representation of a refined socialite. However, this time, alongside her bombshell revelations, she also posted a melancholic selfie, adding a touch of sadness to her usually picture-perfect image.

[User #1: These chat logs look fake at first glance. It's obvious they've been fabricated.]

[User #2: Rumor has it that Ava's sister caused quite a dramatic scene during Ava's engagement.]

[User #3: Speaking from personal experience, having gone to the same school as Adam, I know he's famous for changing girlfriends frequently. It's possible that the chat logs are real.]

Perhaps due to the influence of paid advertisements, this thread quickly gained traction and swiftly made its way into the top ten trending on Twitter within a single afternoon.

Additionally, with it being a Friday, it had climbed to the eighth position by 6 in the evening.

In the midst of preparing in the dressing room, Chloe came across the Twitter thread. Joseph held on to the phone as she carefully read through the entire article.

Impressed, she offered a thumbs up, showing her admiration. "Her writing skills are quite remarkable, surpassing even some professional copywriters."

However, the true focus of the thread was not solely on the quality of writing, but on the way Ava portrayed Adam. She depicted him as the young prince of a prestigious corporation, emphasizing his disinterest in getting involved with an engaged woman like herself.

While it appeared to be a compliment at first glance, there was an underlying hint of negativity woven into the words.

Once Adam chose to acknowledge his relationship with Ava, it would not only invite trouble upon himself but also to the Graham Group. Suppressing him without offending the Grahams was like killing two birds with one stone.

Joseph narrowed his eyes, finding the situation somewhat amusing. "Aren't you worried?"

"What's the point of worrying? It has circulated all over the internet by now."

"Are you not planning to retaliate?"

Chloe's smirk widened, revealing a row of neatly aligned pearly whites. With a hint of cuteness, she replied, "Just a little longer. Now's not the time just yet."

She intended to capitalize on the current buzz and make strategic use of the paid trolls Ava had enlisted.

Joseph crossed his arms, confident that Chloe could handle the situation on her own. He refrained from saying anything further and gestured to the nearby makeup artist to expedite their work.

Tonight, he would be taking Chloe to a high-profile charity gala, where numerous celebrities, including Jane, would be in attendance.

Half an hour later, Chloe stood before Joseph, who appeared slightly absent-minded as his eyes fell upon her.

In contrast to her usual mature style, the makeup artist had fashioned Chloe's hair into voluminous waves. Her light makeup complemented her outfit, with her alluring lips tinted red and her skin radiating a healthy, rosy glow. She exuded a vibrant and noble aura, resembling a princess emerging from the aristocracy.

Her pure presence was impossible to ignore and carried an undeniable tenacity.

Chloe noticed his stunned expression and playfully spun around as she gripped her skirt lightly. "What's the matter? Don't you like it?"

Today's outfit veered toward a cute style, a departure from what Chloe was accustomed to. In her youth, she had yearned to dress in such a manner, but Karen had never indulged her with beautiful dresses. As she grew older and gained financial independence, the window for wearing such lovely dresses had closed, and she gravitated toward a more mature and professional style.

"No," Joseph paused, his cold eyes gleaming with seriousness. "It looks excellent."

He could not help but imagine dressing his future daughter in a similar style.

"Glad you like it. Tonight, I'll accompany you and follow your lead."

While Chloe may come across as affected and pretentious in her daily life, she always took important occasions seriously.

Joseph was highly pleased with this aspect, and he locked eyes with Chloe, asking, "Jane will be there tonight. Are you afraid?"

Chapter 130 Commoners Like Yourself

"Why should I be afraid?"

"She'll likely confront you."

"Aren't you going to help me?"

Joseph remained indifferent. Closing his eyes to rest, he disregarded her plea for help. It was clear he had no intention of intervening.

Chloe stared at that handsome and valiant face of his and rolled her eyes in exasperation.

'Come on, even if she's so great, she can't match the multitude of formidable young women out there. If it was only Jane, that would be manageable, but with her allies, I'd undoubtedly find myself at a disadvantage

'Forget it, I don't want to dwell on it. I'll see how it goes and take it one step at a time.'

In the front seat, Patrick took charge of driving as they made their way to the art exhibition center situated in a far-off area. Chloe gazed out the window,



observing the fleeting scenery, and eventually closed her eyes, seeking solace after a day filled with restlessness.

It was Patrick's voice that roused her from her reverie, prompting her to follow Joseph and disembark from the car, still feeling a bit dazed.

A crowd had gathered at the entrance of the exhibition center, dressed in formal attire and elegant suits. A casual glance at any individual revealed limited edition jewelry and handbags, reminiscent of those featured in the pages of prestigious fashion magazines.

Every guest exuded a vibrant and commanding presence.

Chloe glanced down at her dress and the diamond necklace adorning her neck. They were not luxury brands, but that did not faze her. She straightened her posture and willingly linked her arm with Joseph's. To her, the man by her side was the ultimate accessory-his extraordinarily handsome face surpassing any luxury item.

Joseph lowered his gaze, his eyes fixed on the delicate hand gracefully resting on his arm. A subtle smile played at the corner of his lips. 'Is this dumbo staking her claim? Women have all sorts of tricks up their sleeves.'

Those lingering at the entrance were eager to approach Joseph and engage in conversation, but he paid them no attention, causing them to retract their hands awkwardly.

Once inside the exhibition center, they saw the space was filled with an array of exquisite ceramic art pieces. Glass protective cases showcased each artwork, adorned with extravagant price tags. Chloe briefly glanced at them before averting her gaze.

Jane, seated in the secluded resting area at the back, immediately caught sight of Joseph and

Chloe as they entered together.

Chloe donned a timeless Bavarian chiffon dress, accentuated by a bespoke necklace from a renowned designer and sparkling earrings that matched flawlessly. Her presence exuded an understated yet palpable sense of luxury. On the other hand, Joseph was dressed in a sleek black tailcoat, accentuating his slender waist and broad shoulders, resembling a gallant knight.

Together, this strikingly attractive couple made a perfect match.

Not only did they catch Jane's attention, but the men in the vicinity could not help but steal glances at Chloe too.

Jane clenched her fists and pouted at the man standing beside her, "Bass, that's the woman. who stole Joseph from me."

Her brother, Sebastian Fox, followed her line of sight and glanced at Chloe, stroking his chin." She's undeniably impressive. An absolute beauty."

"Bass! You shouldn't be praising her!"

These past few days, every time she thought about Joseph-who was like a god in her eyes- she felt that he was being wasted on this plain, uncultivated girl. It felt as if a heavy stone was weighing down her heart, causing an aching pain.

'Why is life so unfair? Why wasn't I blessed with such good fortune?'

"Jane, you're not thinking straight. Beauty is one thing, but it can't outweigh financial advantages." Sebastian's eyes twinkled with amusement. "Joseph is the heir of the Whitman. family, the leader of the four great families. Do you honestly think someone of his caliber. would fall for a background-less Cinderella?" "

Jane was taken aback, "What do you mean?"

"It's just a passing infatuation. Once the novelty wears off, no matter how beautiful she is, he'll grow weary of her."

"But...they're already married."

"They haven't had a wedding ceremony yet. As long as there's no grand announcement, it means he's keeping his options open."

Sebastian's logical analysis provided a glimmer of comfort to Jane's aching heart. She bit her lip, watching as Joseph and Chloe parted ways. Passing her wine glass to Sebastian, she declared, "I'm going to find Joseph."

Meanwhile, Sebastian's gaze fixed on Chloe, who stood alone, waiting. A mischievous intent began to stir within him. This untamed girl seemed like a

young fledgling—a rare innocent presence that had been absent in the entertainment industry for a long time.

Chloe, who had skipped dinner and arrived directly from work, grabbed a handful of cookies from the buffet line and began munching on them. Suddenly, a cookie crumb lodged in her

throat, triggering an uncontrollable fit of coughing.

“Here, have some water.” Sebastian, with a gentlemanly demeanor, promptly offered her a glass of water, his eyes shining as he smiled.

Chloe immediately took the water, taking several gulps to ease her discomfort. As she held the glass, her gaze fell upon Sebastian. As she was about to express her gratitude, the words caught in her throat.

She hesitated for a few seconds before finally speaking up, “Hey, you’re that celebrity...”

Not just a celebrity, he was Jane’s brother too.

After their clash with Jane that day, she looked Jane up and stumbled upon a surprising revelation.

Jane’s big celebrity brother was the very celebrity Chloe used to dislike. His reputation was tainted with numerous negative news stories, particularly concerning his disrespectful treatment of assistants and staff. Reports claimed that he would make assistants sleep in hotel corridors and even order them to wash their faces with the water he washed his feet in, among other disturbing incidents.

Sebastian’s face bore a hint of arrogance as he proudly introduced himself, “I’m Sebastian Fox, the male lead in *Clouded Suspicions*.”

Chloe forced a smile, maintaining a polite distance. “Okay, thank you for the water.”

With those words, she turned to leave.

Feeling a blow to his ego by her indifferent response, Sebastian reached out and grabbed her. “Don’t you want an autograph? I can give you one.”

Chloe hesitated for a moment and responded, “Um, no need, thank you.”

“Oh, come on. Don’t be shy. For Joseph’s girl, an autograph is nothing to me. I can even throw in tickets to my concert. After all, commoners like yourself don’t often get the opportunity to rub shoulders with celebrities.