

Jojo and Coco's Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Chapter 141

Chapter 141 A Suddenly Ravenous

Chloe walked over and took the document to take a look.

Soon she put away all the displeasing affairs that had just happened.

Her voice went a pitch higher and she appeared shell-shocked as she asked, "Is this evidence

of Sebastian's tax evasion?"

"Mm-hm."

"Do you want to report against the Foxes?" Chloe put both hands on the table. "Aren't they your family friends? Why do you want to do this?"

"Do you really believe in that superficial relationship?" Joseph's lips twitched in an unfathomable manner and his expression filled with disdain.

Jane's ambition was pretty obvious, so Mr. Harold never considered her when he was introducing women to Joseph. Of course, people cared about equal social ranks when it came to their marriages but they were also afraid that it might cause disaster instead.

Chloe was slightly stunned but realized that he was right. Jane might really like Joseph, but

she always talked about interests and profits. How sincere was her love for Joseph? What she cared for was the Whitman family or the resources brought by Fairlight.

"When do you plan to do it?"

"Within the next few days."

"Oh..." Chloe raised her doubt. "Didn't you tell me that something bad may happen to Sebastian soon? Can't you just wait? Why do you want to report him?"

'Is it because Sebastian and Jane targeted me during the charity party the other day?'

Joseph drummed his fingers on the table rhythmically, making a clear sound. "It's because I find them an eyesore."

Chloe looked at him. He appeared composed with his eyes half narrowed, trying to hide the

emotion in his eyes.

Forget it. He always acts according to his mood. Well, I don't think he really wants to take revenge for me. If I ask about it, it'll bring contempt upon myself."

After Chloe left Joseph's office and returned to the office safe and sound.

Wendy was amazed. "Chloe, you look like you're in good shape..."

Previously, a middle-level executive was asked to stay in Joseph's office for half an hour. When he got back, he was in very low spirits. He had no appetite whatsoever. When he got home, his wife thought that he had been fired.

Chloe was just a low-level employee. After she was scolded, she remained calm and easygoing. Her mentality was indeed extraordinary.

Consequently, Chloe became helpless as she touched her nose. "Maybe I'm bold and not easily hurt by others' criticisms."

Besides, it was not the first time Joseph had scolded her, so she was used to it.

However, Wendy did not think so. She felt that Chloe must be capable, so she wanted to take Chloe under her wing.

After Wendy decided to promote Chloe, Chloe got a lot of chances to move up in the marketing department.

After a few days, Samuel told her that the lawsuit had been filed and that they would now wait for the court summons to open the case.

Feeling gratified, Chloe said, "Thank you so much, Mr. Samuel. You've done so much for me."

“You don’t have to thank me. Just thank Joe. He cares a lot about your affairs. At first, the trial

was set to begin in July at the earliest, but he spent quite a lot of effort to advance it by half a

month.”

Chloe was overwhelmed by shock. “He didn’t tell me about it...”

Samuel was not surprised. “Joe may look cold but he’s actually warm-hearted. He dislikes talking about the good things he does for you. Just be nicer to him. As his friend, I won’t be worried about leaving him in your care.”

“Mr. Samuel, you got it all wrong. We’re just-”

Before Chloe could finish explaining, she was interrupted by Samuel. “All right, that’s all for now. My assistant will contact you if there’s anything related to the case.”

After that, he hung up the call without giving Chloe any chance to explain that.

While staring at her dark phone screen, she thought about Joseph, and her gaze turned complicated.

At night, Joseph found Chloe busy in the kitchen when he got home after a social gathering. Dressed in simple home clothes and her hair in a low ponytail, she was learning from an online tutorial how to make hamburger soup, which was said to be good for hangovers.

Half of her face was light under the dim and gentle light, and it seemed very tender. At the same time, it exuded a very comforting charm.

It made this house truly feel like home.

Joseph then twirled his fingers briefly before he sauntered to the dining table and sat down. He asked lightly, “Did you do something wrong?”

A Suddenly Ravenous

While holding the ladle, Chloe sounded confused. “What do you mean?”

He glanced at her. “Why are you making me hamburger soup then?”

Previously, Chloe would eat on her own at night if he had to attend a social gathering. When he was home, she would either be sleeping soundly or having a bath and applying a facial

mask.

However, she was so eagerly attentive to him that day. So, he assumed that she had done something wrong. She was doing this to appease him.

Chloe answered, “No, I didn’t...”

Joseph raised his brows in disbelief.

Chloe poured some soup into a bowl and got a spoon for him. She then yawned languidly. ” Just drink it. I’m going to bed now. I’ll make you fish and chips with a salad for lunch tomorrow.”

The soup smelled good, so it was quite enticing.

Joseph watched Chloe as she walked up the stairs. She was tall and slim, and her waist was thin too. The part of her petite legs that was exposed was fair and straight. In addition, her skin was extremely tender as if it would turn red with just a light touch.

His eyes darkened slightly. At first, he did not have an appetite. But out of the blue, he suddenly felt ravenous.

Chloe was back in her bedroom. She dozed off before long, and when she woke up in the morning, she found she had missed a call from Jake.

He had called her at three o’clock in the morning.

Chapter 142 I Think My Boyfriend Is Cheating On Me

Seeing as how Jake was awake in the middle of the night, it looked like he had not been having an easy time after breaking up with Ava.

However, Chloe did not care about that. She shuddered at the thought of going back to her

exes. Besides, she would never do that either.

She was not moved by Jake's midnight pretense of loyalty and passion.

After washing up, Chloe went downstairs with Joseph.

The weather was perfect today-bright and sunny. Chloe's work desk area was beside the window. She threw open the window and felt a light breeze which lifted her mood.

She enthusiastically typed away on her keyboard, making rhythmic clicking sounds.

"Chloe, someone is looking for you downstairs."

After an unknown period, the receptionist called her and interrupted her thoughts.

Chloe took off her earphones and was stunned for a while. "Okay, I'll go down right now."

When she arrived on the ground floor, she furrowed her brows when she saw Jake.

"What do you want?" she asked.

"Coco, congratulations on passing your interview and getting a job at Fairlight."

Although his hair was a bit messed up, Jake looked decent enough. However, dark circles could be seen under his eyes. He had lost so much weight and appeared dispirited and haggard. But

he sounded rather sincere.

"How do you know I'm working here?"

"Ava told me when I went to the Johnsons' family to cancel the engagement." After dwelling on it for a while, he suppressed his deep emotions and inquired, "Is the matter between her

and Adam true?"

Chloe was silent. He appeared pretty desperate, so she nodded. "Yes, it's true. Ava took the initiative to get close to Adam for Patterson's projects."

"F*ck! That b*tch!"

Ava had worn such sexy clothes that day, claiming that she had gone shopping with Melody. She must have been out with Adam.

Jake knew now that Ava had cheated on him with a younger man. But that young man was Alexander Patterson's son. Hence, he could only suffer in silence.

"Coco, I was wrong and blind. I didn't see how nice you were to me. Is it...still possible

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between us?"

"Never," she refused directly without any hesitation.

get

How ridiculous. She had started a new life. She must be crazy if she wanted to back together with him.

Jake laughed at himself. "That's right. I've lost that right. Uncle Icarus is far better than me."

Even if Icarus and Chloe ended up marrying each other, Jake would not object even if he could not forget about her. He had brought this upon himself, so he deserved to suffer as such.

"What does Icarus have anything to do with me?" Chloe instantly took a step back and tried to dissociate herself from that. "Stop saying nonsense."

In a daze, Jake became hesitant. He said, "Haven't you been spending time with Uncle Icarus?"

"That's a misunderstanding!"

"No way. Uncle Icarus told me that he likes you. Why is it a misunderstanding?"

Chloe was slightly stunned, and her heart skipped a beat. “Are you sure it’s Icarus who told you that?”

“Yes, he told me.” Jake’s expression became strange. “Don’t you know? You told me before that Uncle Icarus likes you...’

While they were talking, many things that could not be explained previously were now

resolved.

‘Oh, gosh! Are you kidding me?’ Chloe scratched her head, frustrated. ‘I wanted to be Jake’s aunt, but not anymore. It’s too late now.’

Jake looked at her in worry. “Are you having a headache? Do you want me to take you to the hospital?”

“No, thanks. I’m going back upstairs to work if you’re done.” She was in no mood to handle this now because she wanted some alone time.

“Yes, I’m done. I have yet to regain the dowry I gave to the Johnsons. It’s Benjamin’s birthday party next week. If they still refuse to return it to me by then, I’ll go there and ask for it on that day. Then, they’ll be thoroughly embarrassed.” Jake gnashed his teeth in hatred. After all, things had come to this state, and he did not care if he had a falling out with them.

After some slight hesitation, he stated guiltily, “I heard Benjamin mention your mother before I left. He seemed to be talking about a dowry. Are you going back to them?”

“No, I’m not.”

“Will you attend Benjamin’s birthday party? He cares about his reputation a lot. If you go there and ask for it that day, he may give it to you since he’ll be put on the spot in front of so

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many people.”

Chloe shook her head. “You’re too naive.’

If it were that simple, she would not have had to file a lawsuit. The court summons should reach them in the next few days.

After sending Jake off, Chloe returned to her desk and continued working. When the work day was almost over, Emily suddenly called her.

As she sobbed, Emily said, “I think my boyfriend is cheating on me. Why Coco.....”

Chloe’s eyelids started to twitch furiously. She immediately recalled the couple she had seen hugging and kissing each other in the Toyota the other day.

She then glanced at the time shown at the bottom of her computer screen and comforted Emily, “Where are you now? I’ll be off work in about half an hour. I’ll come to find you.

Emily gave her an address to a private cinema.

A bad feeling dawned on Chloe. There was no doubt that they were about to catch the cheating couple red-handed.

Chloe decided to ask Joseph for a few guards as a safety precaution.

If they indeed caught the cheating couple red-handed, Emily might launch herself at the scumbag in a fit of rage. Hence, they had to come on strong and imposing.

Chapter 143 The Cheating Couple

After Chloe exited the elevator, she gazed at the whole floor that Joseph occupied.

A realization overcame her. Although he had a bad temper and vicious tongue, he was not a playboy. After spending such a long time with him, she found that he had good self-control.

‘He is a pretty good man...’

When Lucas came out, he saw Chloe standing at the entrance of the elevator, lost in thought. She even nodded to herself from time to time.

He waved his hand in front of her and disrupted her thoughts. "Ms. Chloe, are you here to see Mr. Joseph?"

"Ah... Yes. Is he here?"

"Yes, he is."

After saying that, Lucas deliberately added, "Mr. Joseph has left instructions that you may go straight in whenever you come by. It's more convenient that way."

Chloe gave Lucas a weird look. She just needed to come here once to deliver lunch to him at

noon every day. So, it had nothing to do with whether it was convenient or not.

Still, she gave a courteous reply even though she fancied such a thought.

Surprisingly, Joseph was not in his office working. Instead, he was taking a break, lying on the black leather sofa with his eyes closed.

Chloe took care to be light footed and held her breath. She then stopped in her tracks as she was troubled by conflicted feelings. She did not know if she should wake him up. After dwelling on it for a few seconds, she felt that Lucas might be able to decide on whether she could have a few guards.

She heard Joseph's clear voice behind her the moment she grasped the doorknob.

"Spill it."

Startled, Chloe's heart skipped a beat. She patted her chest in resentment. "You're awake."

Joseph had been so silent. "I was, but I woke up when you came in." He sat up on the sofa and rubbed the place between his brows.

His underlying meaning was that she had woken him up. She thought herself innocent since she had not made much noise.

"Umm... Can I get a few guards from you?"

Joseph's eyes flew open and stared at her through dangerously narrowed eyes. "Are you going

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to the Johnson residence?"

"No, my bestie thinks her boyfriend is cheating on her. I'm going with her to check things out.

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He frowned and paused. After a moment, he said, "I'll go with you. We can then go home together when it's over."

However, she frowned and gazed at him with some doubt. He seemed fine, but did he know

how to handle a situation like this?

Doing business and catching a homewrecker in the act were two vastly different affairs.

He had been in the business world for a long time, and he had never encountered other types of hardships. What if he got rid of Emily before it began just because he despised her for being too noisy with her crying and wailing?

Joseph then met her gaze and whispered, "I won't go in. Lucas will go with you."

"Deal."

They soon arrived at the spot based on the address Emily had sent. She was sitting in the lobby of the cinema, her eyes red from crying.

"Did you see him go upstairs with a woman?" Chloe held Emily's hands, her heart aching for

her friend.

"Yeah, I saw them. I know which room they're in."

Lucas looked around and felt that it was a rather decent place. “Is it possible they’re just here to watch a movie?”

“Impossible. People normally wouldn’t pick a room with a water bed if they really wanted to watch a movie!” Emily cried, “I’m being cheated on. We’re so unlucky, Coco. Your boyfriend cheated on you before this, and now my boyfriend is doing the same to me. We’re both on team cheated-on-and-dumped...”

Chloe’s lips twitched. “That’s enough. Stop saying nonsense. Let’s go upstairs and check it out.

The room the couple had booked was on the third floor. In the corridor, they could hear all kinds of explicit noises from inside. Chloe’s heart sank. There was doubt about it anymore.

Lucas pretended to be a waiter and knocked on the door.

“Who is it?” a man answered, breathless.

“I’m a technician. There’s a problem with the wiring in your room, and there may be a danger of electric leakage. Let me check it out for you. I’ll have everything fixed in a few minutes.”

After that, they heard the rustling sounds of people putting on clothes before a man opened the door, the top half of him bare.

Emily immediately rushed into the room.

When Chloe saw the man’s face, she clenched her fists tightly. The man she saw kissing a woman in the Toyota the other day was none other than Emily’s boyfriend.

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Score 9.5

Chapter 144 You Can’t Stay With Joseph for Long

In the room, clothes were scattered all over the floor. An unknown woman was lying on the water bed, naked and screaming.

It was irrefutable evidence. It was just like the day when Chloe walked in on Ava and Jake in bed together. Thinking that such things were behind her, she could not suppress her nausea upon seeing this same scene.

In the next second, she started retching. At the same time, she heard people arguing.

Lucas had worked for Joseph for a long time, so he acted resolutely and decisively. He immediately separated Emily from the scumbag. After affirming the truth, he took out his phone and took photographs of the scene to record the evidence. He then left with Chloe and Emily.

When they got downstairs, Emily regained her wits. With a tear-filled face, she asked, "Why did you pull me away? I haven't beaten him up."

"Don't waste your time on meaningless stuff."

Chloe tilted her head. She found that Lucas' resembled a certain person very much.

"Ms. Chloe, Mr. Joseph is waiting for you in the car. I'll help your friend get a cab."

They could not make Joseph wait for too long.

Chloe pointed at Emily, who was crying profusely. "I want to go home with Em."

Lucas was stunned before he recalled Joseph's order. "I'll help you give her a ride home and send her the photos I took."

Chloe watched as Lucas helped the teary Emily into a cab. He was indeed efficient, but she felt something was amiss.

When she was back in the car, Joseph glanced at her languidly. When he saw her pale face, he frowned. "Why do you look sick?"

"Nothing... I just found the scene a bit disgusting."

Joseph remained silent before he turned the steering wheel and drove home. They reached the

villa half an hour later.

When Jane saw Joseph arrive home, she rushed over even before the car stopped. She begged anxiously, “Joseph, the police took Bass. You know people at the station. Please help me.”

Joseph lowered the car window and revealed an aloof expression. His slender eyes narrowed. ” What does this have to do with me?”

“Despite not being married, we’ve been friends for so many years. Can you bear to see them lock up Bass?”

“Tsk, the Fox Group secretly and unscrupulously seized business deals from my family and ruined the project of an office building of over 10,000 square meters. Why can’t I bear to see him locked up?”

Jane’s face fell. “My dad apologized to Mr. Harold about that affair.”

Joseph snorted in response and drawled, “My grandpa is old. He wanted to do something good before passing on, so he let the matter go. That doesn’t mean that I’ll accept it.

Chloe was struck speechless. ‘Is he praising or cursing Grandpa?’

Jane then noticed Chloe who was sitting in the back seat, and envy engulfed her rationality She admonished, “Five years have passed since then, and you’re bringing it up all of a sudden now? Is it because of this b*tch you married?”

The properties managed by the Whitman family were separate from Fairlight’s. Joseph went abroad to study in the past and single-handedly established Fairlight. After that, he never meddled in his family’s business.

In addition, Harold, who was old, did not worry about his business. He handed most of the affairs to the people he trusted to manage. Even if there was a loss, he did not care very much about it.

During those years, the other aristocratic families conspired with each other to snatch many projects from the Whitmans. But when Joseph came back, he punished somebody as a warning to others after he inspected the family’s finances.

As a result, those people stopped their scheming.

Chloe retorted before Joseph could say anything.

“Your brother’s tax evasion is illegal. What does it have to do with me? Do you want my husband to go against the law and help you? What’s more, you should hurry up and pay the taxes. It’s better than you pretending to be pitiful here.”

“You have no idea what you’re talking about. Bass’ acting career is ruined even if we pay the taxes.” Jane’s face became distorted as she gnashed her teeth. She had lost her usual dignified and esteemed image of a rich, young lady. “You’re just a bumpkin who claims ties wi man. What right do you have to tell me what to do?”

Hearing that, Chloe looked at Jane as if Jane was stupid. “So, why didn’t he pay his taxes and be a good citizen who abides by the law?”

Sebastian started to feel fear when his crimes were exposed. But compared to sitting mall. having his future destroyed was nothing.

Sebastian was used to leading a good life with him as the center of the universe, so he sup

would not accept becoming an ordinary man.

Chloe’s statement infuriated Jane, and she wanted to drag Chloe out of the car.

Joseph quickly pressed the car horn several times-the piercing sound grinding on the ears. His gaze was cold as he said, “This is my home. It is not a place for you to make a scene.”

Jane shook her fists at the window before she retracted them, still trembling.

Joseph stepped out of the car and walked into the villa, Chloe following behind him.

“Do you think you’ll be able to stay with Joseph forever?” Jane suddenly shouted.

Chloe glanced at the man who had gone up to the second floor. Surprisingly, she stopped in her tracks and turned to look at Jane. “What do you mean?”

Sarcasm was written all over Jane's face as if she was staring at a clown. "Do you know why Joseph went abroad and remained unmarried for such a long time?"

Chapter 145 She's a Perfect Match for Joseph

Chloe clenched her fists beside her body and faked a smile. "Why?"

Jane's smile deepened as she leaned in closer to Chloe. "It's because the woman he loves is abroad. He remained unmarried for such a long time because he was waiting for her to come back. When she's back, it'll be time for you to get lost.

"He married you because he felt that you're obedient and easy to bully. It'll be easy for him to get rid of you in the future, and he won't get into trouble either.

"On the other hand, the Foxes and the Whitmans are family friends. If there's a marriage, it'll be an alliance. It won't be trifled with and we can't get a divorce so easily." Jane looked at Chloe and mocked her, "But you're different. Your mother died early, and your father hates you. Your family disowned you, so no one will step up for you. It won't cost much to make you disappear.

"Joseph is a businessman. He knows how to minimize losses."

Chloe was stunned. She knew more than anyone the meaning of this marriage. Similarly, she had a very clear understanding of it. But she still felt bad when someone exposed it.

Chloe straightened her back and took in the smugness on Jane's face. She then said rationally, "If you're right, Joseph may have the upper hand, but I'm not suffering a loss either. I can gain a large sum of property after the divorce. What's more, you told me this just because you're jealous. You're jealous that I can be a part of the Whitman family." 1

She calmly made an objective and clear analysis without a hint of emotion.

As a result, Jane stabbed her fingernails hard into her palms and sneered. "I didn't expect you to be so smart. You know your place so well."

“Are you

done?” Chloe side-eyed Jane. “If you are, you should go home and discuss with your brother how to handle the tax evasion. I’m sure he must be deeply worried over it right now.”

“We’re better off than poor people even if we suffer a loss now. You don’t have to worry about

that.”

At this point, Chloe no longer wanted to waste any more time. She turned around to head to

her bedroom.

“Don’t you want to know who’s the woman Joseph cares about?” Jane’s indignant voice came

again.

Chloe slowed her steps but did not stop. She continued up the stairs.

“Her name is Xavia Larson, and she was a promising violinist back in the day. She even acted in several movies. You can find her information on the Internet,” Jane raised her voice and said this to Chloe. She believed that Chloe would be curious.

Upon hearing the name, Chloe’s eyelashes fluttered but she did not express any emotion. When she was back in her bedroom, she habitually changed into casual clothes and was ready to go downstairs to cook.

But when she reached the door, she took a deep breath and abruptly turned around to turn on her

computer. She then typed the name “Xavia Larson” on the keyboard with her slim fingertips.

‘No, I don’t care. I’m just curious.

‘Yeah, I don’t care about it at all. I’m just curious.’

After Chloe murmured in her heart, she gripped the mouse and clicked on the search button. Several hundred pieces of news about Xavia popped out. The first thing she saw was Xavia's photograph.

She was a woman around twenty-five or twenty-six years old with fluffy, curly hair that exuded a laid-back vibe. Her charming eyes had a bewitching quality and her body figure was good. It was curvy and held a tinge of gentleness.

Her exposed skin was fair, and her neck was slim and long. She was charming but not vulgar, emitting a mature aura. She appeared rather elegant with the violin she held in her hand.

For a moment, Chloe's mind went blank. She did not know how to describe it. Xavia would be in the limelight everywhere she went given her appearance and temperament.

She was indeed a perfect match for Joseph. They would be an ideal couple.

The information showed that Xavia went missing after she went abroad three years ago to join a TV show about wilderness survival. But this incident did not attract much attention on the Internet because she did not enjoy much fame in the entertainment industry.

However, it proved that Jane was not lying.

Chloe quietly stared at the computer screen for a long time.

"You aren't cooking yet?"

After an unknown period, Chloe heard Joseph's voice from outside her room.

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Score 9.5

Chapter 146 How Did It Suddenly Turn Out Like This?

Chloe jolted from her daydream and swiftly closed the web browser with a guilty conscience.

"Coming," she replied.

On the first floor in the living room, Joseph had also changed into his home attire. His navy blue long-sleeved shirt and long pants softened his demeanor, making him appear less distant and more approachable. However, his scrutinizing gaze in his eyes seemed unfriendly.

“What were you doing holed up in your room?” he inquired.

“I was just changing,” Chloe replied, her gaze on his clear but distant face. She recalled Jane’s remarks, but she suppressed the sudden surge of sourness and kept a composed smile. “Different rules for the mighty, right?”

Chloe and Joseph shared something in common. Upon returning home, they would change, taking off the ones they had worn outside for the day. Wearing outside clothes indoors felt unclean to them.

Joseph smirked and responded, “It only takes five minutes to change. You’ve been in there for forty-two minutes.”

His sarcastic and petty comment eased some of the sourness in Chloe’s heart. Being liked by Joseph was not something to be desired. She could not believe she had felt upset about

becoming his backup plan.

She had fallen for Jane’s trap.

“I was just tired and wanted to rest for a while. You can’t be that hungry, can you?”

“Your attitude is a problem,” Joseph said, grabbing Chloe’s shoulder and forcing her to look at him. “What did Jane say to you?” He clearly sensed that something was off with her ever since Jane’s departure.

Chloe hesitated to address the issue, but since he brought it up, she seized the chance to sarcastically taunt him, “It’s not a big deal, honestly.”

Pausing for a moment, she cast a quick glance at him before continuing, “She just mentioned your first love.”

Joseph furrowed his brow, “First love?”

“Yeah. Xavia.”

Chloe's gaze lingered on his face, attentively observing his every reaction. Joseph's eyebrows went up slightly upon hearing her words, but his response remained subdued.

"She's not my first love," he retorted.

Chloe's almond-shaped eyes widened ever so slightly. "That's it?"

"What do you want to hear?" he snapped, his tone unfriendly. "A tale of our undying love? An account of our inseparable past perhaps?"

"Th-Tthere wasn't any of that?" Chloe replied, her voice trailing off.

The presence of a figure by Joseph's side, someone even Jane was aware of, held significant importance. Though they were not romantically involved, it was evident that they shared a special connection.

"No, there's nothing like that.'

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"Then what's your relationship with her?"

Joseph's eyes flickered, a barely noticeable curl forming on his lips. "Do I sense a hint of jealousy?"

"No, just curiosity," Chloe denied, shaking her head.

She refused to admit it.

Joseph reached out and gently pinched her cheek, savoring its soft and smooth texture. Surprisingly, his voice held a touch of gentleness. "Now, go and cook. I'm famished."

Chloe assumed that he did not want to talk about it, deliberately concealing the truth. A wave of unease washed over her, and she swatted his hand away before making her way to the kitchen.

As she sat at the dining table, ready to indulge in her meal, Chloe's phone buzzed, drawing her attention. Simultaneously, Joseph's phone rang as well.

She picked up her phone and saw a message from Samuel, informing her about the court hearing scheduled for the 27th at the end of the month. The Johnsons should have received the same notification today.

“Did Mr. Samuel text you as well?” Chloe asked as she looked up.

“Yes.” Joseph nodded, continuing to eat gracefully.

“Do you think Mr. Samuel is confident about this case?”

To be honest, she had some doubts, not about Samuel, but about Benjamin and Ava. Their

receiving court summons would surely only make things worse.

Joseph’s tone turned cold. “Don’t worry. Samuel isn’t a kind person. As a lawyer, one can’t afford to be compassionate.”

A twitch formed at the corner of Chloe’s mouth. “That’s reassuring.”

As it was a weekend the next day, Chloe prepared some delicious desserts and paid a visit to Emily who was heartbroken.

Emily had not left her house for several days, and her home was in disarray. She greeted Chloe with rat’s nest hair, then climbed back into her bed, appearing lifeless.

“That’s enough. This isn’t worth it for a scumbag like him,” Chloe said.

Emily stared at the ceiling and forced a bitter smile. “I accepted the fact that he cheated a long time ago.”

“Then gather yourself and don’t let him see you as a joke.”

“Sigh... What’s bothering me is something else.”

Chloe tilted her head, her hands pausing on peeling the orange she held.

“What could be more serious than being cheated on?”

Emily sat up, propping a cushion behind her back. “Lucas took a few photos of that jerk in the cinema and sent them to me. The more I thought about it, the angrier I became, so I

forwarded the photos to his company.

“Was he fired?”

“Yes, and the woman he was with at the cinema was his colleague. They were both fired.” Emily sighed. “He knew that I reported him and sent me a bunch of nasty messages.”

As Emily stared at those hurtful messages, memories of their past flooded her mind. The way he had pursued her with sweet words and charming smiles. How did it suddenly turn out like this?

Chloe pursed her lips. “Do you feel like you’ve been blindsided? Like you’ve misjudged him?”

“Yeah,” Emily replied, her voice filled with disappointment.

Chloe let out a sigh, a tinge of melancholy in her expression. “I know that feeling all too well. I felt it too when I discovered Jake’s affair. Try to see it from a different perspective. Yes, you lost a few months of your life, but it’s better to cut your losses now.”

Emily forced a smile that was even more bitter than tears. “Join me for some drinks?”

“Sure.”

At the bar, Emily downed a few drinks. She cried and cursed, releasing her pent-up emotions.

Chloe offered her a tissue. “I need to answer nature’s call. Clean your tears. Your makeup is smudged.”

She then got up from her seat and made her way toward the restroom. However, to her surprise, she spotted Ava who had been missing in action for a while.

Chapter 147 Intimate Photos

Ava was dressed in a delicate white dress, laughing and joking with a stranger. Her enchanting demeanor made the man next to her blush.

“I’m relying on you for this case.”

“No problem. It’s just a small matter. But can you handle your alcohol? You don’t look like a wild one...”

“I can handle some. Lawyers like you must have a challenging time in their daily work. Today is a good opportunity for you to unwind.”

“Then I’ll follow your lead. Thanks to the timely rain outside, it has created this chance. It’s an honor to have your company, Ms. Ava.”

In just a few sentences, Chloe grasped the situation at hand. Without hesitation, she boldly approached the pair, a sneer on her face.

As soon as Ava caught sight of Chloe, her previously joyful expression turned serious. The man beside her observed the sudden change and inquired, “What’s the matter?”

Ava’s lips tightened into a line and whispered, “I just saw my sister.”

The man paused, following her gaze, and his eyes landed on Chloe, filled with astonishment. He had thought Ava was beautiful before, but now she seemed to pale in comparison. However, the allure of a woman as captivating as Chloe was too much for him to handle, while Ava was just right for him.

The lawyer, Gideon Parker, looked at Chloe and said in a firm tone, “You’re the ingrate I’ve heard so much about, I presume?”

Chloe could not be bothered to respond to him and addressed Ava directly, “Did you receive the court summons?”

Ava timidly replied, “Coco, we’re family. Why do we have to make it so embarrassing?”

“Stop pretending. I don’t have time for your theatrics. Save your pitiful act for the judge on the 27th.”

Ava was anxious about Chloe’s assertive attitude, fearing that they might lose the lawsuit. However, her worries subsided when she took into account Gideon’s renowned reputation as a lawyer. In Aesper City, there were few who could rival him—one of those few being Samuel

Winson.

She found it hard to believe that Chloe, with her limited means, could afford to secure the services of such a high-caliber attorney.

Gideon frowned in the face of Chloe's aggressive attitude. Just as he was about to intervene,

Ava stopped him before he could speak.

"Could you give us a moment alone? I'd like to have a private conversation with Coco"

Gideon threatened Chloe with his glare. "Be more polite when talking to your sister."

Chloe glanced at him, inwardly sighing at another man who could not see beyond appearances. Or maybe men simply preferred girls that possessed soft and gentle demeanors.

After seeing Gideon leave, the fleeting tenderness on Ava's face quickly vanished. Her voice dripped with disgust as she said, "You witnessed it yourself. He's Gideon Parker, a renowned force in the legal field. Use your common sense and file for the cancellation of the trial if you want to salvage any semblance of dignity."

"Gideon? Never heard of him, but I trust that the lawyer I've chosen is far more formidable than him."

Ava burst into laughter, her sneer evident. "You didn't hire Samuel Winson, did you? Do you know how much he charges for his cases? You won't earn enough in a lifetime."

Chloe shrugged nonchalantly. "Well, let's just wait and see."

Ava's expression shifted slightly, and she asked with a hint of uncertainty, "Who's this lawyer you've hired?"

"There's no need for me to disclose that to you."

Chloe's unwavering demeanor heightened Ava's sense of unease. She clenched her teeth and retorted, "I have evidence of your disruptive behavior at the engagement banquet."

Chloe's brows furrowed slightly. Only three people were aware of that incident at the time. While it was widely known that Chloe was involved, the only person besides Emily who could possess solid evidence was her despicable ex-boyfriend.

"Did Em's ex-boyfriend give them to you?"

"Not only that, but I also possess intimate, explicit photos of Emily. I paid over 3 grand to acquire them. You're not worried about your own reputation? Then do you not care about protecting Emily's image? Don't you wish to prevent her intimate photos from being exposed to the public?"

Jojo and Coco's Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Score 9.5

Chapter 148 You Don't Need to Train Me

Upon hearing these words, a surge of anger coursed through Chloe's entire being.

Her voice turned cold as she roared, "You dare to do such a thing?!"

"You'll find out soon enough." Ava's eyes darted around, and a sudden idea sparked in her mind. "Daddy's birthday party is in a few days. If you attend, I'll permanently destroy all of Emily's photos, and we can have a proper discussion about this. Seeing as we're sisters, I truly don't want to take this to court."

"Aren't you afraid I'll report you to the authorities?" Chloe suppressed her anger, her eyes burning with an intense fire.

"Yes, I am. But I'll advise you not to ruin Emily's life for your temporary satisfaction. A girl who experiences such a blow may have suicidal thoughts."

Chloe's eyes turned red, and her pupils contracted. She knew. She knew it all too well.

She understood the devastating impact those photos would have on Emily. Other than her mother, Emily was closest to her-her oldest and dearest friend. Furthermore, Emily came from a single-parent household.

Chloe could not bear to see her suffer.

Struggling to control her emotions, Chloe lifted her head and locked eyes with Ava. Her once- beautiful face now resembled a venomous scorpion as she whispered, "Fine."

Ava smirked triumphantly and walked away.

Chloe returned to her seat, gazing at the intoxicated Emily with a profound sense of pity. She accompanied her friend home. On her way home, Chloe passed by the police station, where she decided to take action..

Soon after, Emily's ex-boyfriend was apprehended by the police. During the interrogation, he readily admitted to secretly selling Emily's intimate photos without her consent. However, he vehemently denied any involvement in illegal transactions.

Chloe, determined to bring Ava to justice, reported her to the police. Despite the existence of various pieces of evidence, there was no direct contact or financial transactions found between Ava and him.

Chloe fell into silence, contemplating the situation. It was true that Ava had boldly claimed to leave no trace of evidence behind. As a result, Emily's ex-boyfriend was detained for further investigation, while evidence of Ava's involvement remained elusive.

Chloe had no intention of burdening Emily with these troubling matters. She knew that

sharing such information would only further upset her dear friend.

However, she was not one to easily contain her thoughts, especially when in the presence of Joseph. As she sliced apples in the kitchen, her mind could not help but wander to Emily's predicament, causing her to accidentally cut her finger.

"Ouch!" She winced, observing the blood trickling from the wound.

"Can't you be more careful?" Joseph's brow furrowed as he swiftly rose from his seat and retrieved a first aid kit. Taking hold of Chloe's hand, he proceeded to disinfect and dress her injury.

Chloe was taken aback, not anticipating his quick action or his willingness to help her.

“What’s been occupying your thoughts these past few days?” Joseph reproached, his voice tinged with annoyance. “You’re absent-minded even while cutting fruit.”

“Was it that obvious?” Chloe’s gaze dropped, feeling exposed by Joseph’s keen observation.

“Tell me,” he commanded, his tone brooking no denial.

“I can’t say…” Chloe’s eyes averted even further. “It’s a personal matter concerning my friend…”

She desired to handle Emily’s situation on her own, not wishing to burden Joseph.

Raising an eyebrow, Joseph questioned, “Is it something related to your friend, Emily?”

Chloe’s surprise was evident as she looked up. “How did you know?”

Joseph playfully flicked her forehead with his index finger. “That’s not the point.”

Wincing and covering her forehead, Chloe fell into silence for a moment before finally opening up about the encounter with Ava earlier that day.

“Beg me and I’ll help you,” Joseph stated.

“No, I want to handle it myself,” replied Chloe, determined not to rely too heavily on others.

Relying too much on others was not a good thing.

Joseph choked, his temper flaring. “Handle it yourself? When have you ever successfully handled something on your own? Even to reclaim your mother’s inheritance, you needed me to find a lawyer to fight for you in court.”

“I may not be capable, but I’ll try. I won’t curl up and give up when you eventually stop helping me one day,” Chloe asserted.

He gently patted Chloe's head, his handsome face adorned with a bewitching smile. "As long as you behave and don't make me angry, I'll always be there to help you."

Naturally, his woman deserved his protection. How could this dumbo not understand such a

basic principle?

Chloe stared at Joseph incredulously. "I'm not your pet. You don't need to train me to be obedient."

Jojo and Coco's Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Score 9.5

Chapter 149 Be Good, Will You?

"If

you refuse to obey me, who else would you listen to?" Joseph disregarded the first part of her sentence, gripping her chin tightly as he questioned her coldly.

According to customs from the olden days, a husband was traditionally regarded as the center of a wife's world, and it was expected of her to obey him dutifully.

Joseph's intensity instantly grew, causing Chloe to gulp nervously. "I mean, our relationship is somewhat unequal. We should treat each other with respect."

"Fine, as long as our capabilities match."

"But even if I don't match, there should still be some humanity. I cook for you every day and even have to flatter you as Toto does. I'm a living, breathing person, and I deserve to be treated with dignity!"

"What's wrong with being like Toto?" Joseph raised his chin slightly. "Do you know that many people in the world envy Toto's life?"

Chloe gazed at the Border Collie lying by the door, its luxurious bed imported from abroad and costing tens of thousands. A mere bag of snacks or dog food would cost hundreds. The regular grooming, hair care, and miscellaneous expenses spent on Totot exceeded those of an ordinary office worker's salary.

Sensing her gaze, Toto lazily shook its body and ambled over to Joseph, rubbing its furry head against his hand, seeking attention and affection.

Chloe sighed, at a loss for words. Truly, Toto's life surpassed that of many people. The arrogant man's words remained as undeniable as ever.

Joseph rose to his feet, towering over her, while his slightly calloused fingers caressed her face. His dark eyes gleamed with possessiveness. "Be good, will you?"

He contemplated that continuing like this would not be so bad. This woman might not be the brightest, but he did not harbor any dislike for her.

Chloe locked eyes with him, her skin still tingling from his caress. Her gaze faltered, and she stammered, "I...I'll clean the dishes later."

She hastily escaped, rushing upstairs.

In the confines of her bedroom, Chloe locked the door behind her, placing a hand over her racing heart. That scoundrel, Joseph, was too good-looking. She had come dangerously close to surrendering, but thankfully, her willpower proved strong enough to resist his charm.

Fortunately, Joseph had stopped picking on her. She lay on the bed, mindlessly scrolling through her phone. Just as she was about to doze off, a trending thread caught her attention.

[Breaking News: Renowned actor, Sebastian Fox, is under investigation for tax evasion and embezzlement totaling seven hundred million.)

Chloe sat up, tapping on the thread and delving into the comments section.

(Finally, he's getting what he deserves. Ugh, what an eyesore.)

I've always loathed celebrities who look down on their fans and exploit them. Let's boycott him from now on.]

[Sob sob sob. Sebastian isn't like that. It's all a misunderstanding.]

[The third comment has already received ten thousand likes. Some fans must have the intelligence of toddlers.]

Chloe's eyes widened as she continued to read.

The article had been published by the Aesper City Police Department, not some promotional account. It appeared that Sebastian's career was truly on the verge of collapse.

The days flew by, and before she knew it, it was already Friday. Benjamin's birthday party was taking place at the most prestigious restaurant in Aesper City-a testament to his desire for grandeur.

Having wrapped up her work, Chloe intended to hail a cab and head to the venue. As she descended the stairs, she noticed Lucas stationed at the entrance on the ground floor.

"Are you waiting for someone?" she asked.

Lucas was always there to ensure important business partners visiting Fairlight Group received a warm and friendly welcome.

"Not really. Mr. Joseph has a meeting with the overseas team today, and he instructed me to accompany you," Lucas replied.

Chloe had no objections and felt grateful for the arrangement. "Okay, thank you then."

Twenty minutes later, they arrived at the restaurant. Chloe stepped out of the car and turned to Lucas, saying, "All right, I'm at my destination. You can go back and inform Joseph now."

"I can't leave just yet. Mr. Joseph wants me to wait for you to finish and then escort you home. I'll be waiting outside. If you encounter any problems, inform me immediately, and I'll come in right away," said Lucas.

He paused for a moment, his expression serious, before adding, "Ms. Chloe, Mr. Joseph genuinely takes your well-being into consideration in every aspect."

Jojo and Coco's Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Score 9.5

Chapter 150 Icarus' Undivided Attention on Chloe

Hearing Lucas' words, Chloe felt a warmth in her heart, although she was aware that it

stemmed from Joseph's possessiveness. Nevertheless, she could not deny that he was being attentive to her needs this time.

"Well, I'm grateful to him," she replied.

Lucas smiled and nodded in response.

Inside the banquet hall, everyone was elegantly dressed. Benjamin and Ava stood at the entrance, welcoming the arriving guests. It appeared that the dissolution of Ava's marriage to the Coopers had little impact on their attitude.

As soon as Ava spotted Chloe, she rushed over and embraced her affectionately. "Coco, you're here. Let me walk you inside."

Chloe discreetly shrugged Ava off, maintaining an expressionless face. "I can go in on my own.

"

Ava paused, concealing her hidden malice behind a gentle smile. "All right, Jake is inside too. You can sit with him."

Chloe ignored Ava's instructions and found an empty seat, choosing to sit alone. It had been challenging to distance herself from Jake since cutting him out of her life.

Soon, the banquet hall started to fill up as more and more people arrived. Business partners, relatives of the Johnsons, and even media reporters were part of the guest list.

Chloe scanned the room and furrowed her brows as she noticed a significant number of media representatives present, which did not sit well with her.

Jake had caught sight of Chloe earlier, and frustration swelled within him when he observed her purposefully keeping her distance.

Icarus arrived five minutes before the birthday banquet was scheduled to begin. He took a seat beside Jake and said in a deep voice, "Looks like the Coopers invited the media as well."

Jake was caught off guard. "No wonder there are so many reporters outside."

"They came prepared today."

Initially, the plan was to invite the media to exert pressure and demand the return of the dowry. Considering Jake's current situation, 3 million in dowry was a substantial amount.

Under normal circumstances, if a couple were to break up, it would be acceptable to forgo claiming the dowry. However, Ava's affair with Adam made it impossible to let this matter slide.

"What should we do? I just saw Chloe. She's here too," Jake exclaimed, his composure slipping.

Icarus' expression grew serious as he scanned the room, searching for her. He spotted Chloe in a corner, standing out amid the elegantly dressed crowd. She wore professional office attire, the tight fitting pencil skirt highlighting her enticing figure and exuding an air of

competence and individuality.

Icarus' heart raced as he turned to Jake and said, "Wait here for a moment. I'll go talk to Chloe."

Jake wanted to stop Icarus but was uncertain about his own role in this situation. Despite his mental preparation and constant self assurance that his uncle was superior in every aspect and could bring happiness to Chloe, seeing Icarus sitting next to her, showering her with gentle looks, made Jake feel a pang of jealousy. He grabbed the glass of red wine in front of him and downed it in one gulp.

"Did Ava invite you?" Icarus asked casually, his expression natural, and a touch of gentleness emanating from behind his gold rimmed glasses.

Chloe noticed Icarus and was slightly taken aback. Remembering Jake's words, a trace of

embarrassment crossed her face "Yeah, she did.'

Icarus' refined features turned into a scowl. "She has ulterior motives.

"I'm aware of that, but I had to come," Chloe said, tightening her grip on the voice recorder pen in her hand. The corner of her mouth twitched, displaying determination. "Don't worry, I know how to handle it. And what about you? Did you come with Jake?"

"Yes, Jake currently holds a special position in the Cooper family. His younger brother has inherited half of the management rights of the Cooper family's company I have to support

him "

Years ago, Jake's father had an affair, and his mother used to make a fuss about it. As time passed, she lost her willpower and stopped attending to the business matters of their company Jake grew up day by day, and eventually, his mother became more accepting and stopped intervening

Chloe sighed and commented, "Every family has its own set of problems."

The high-profile birthday party commenced, and many attendees presented valuable gifts, including exquisite caviar, gourmet truffles, and famous paintings Having been with Joseph for a long time, Chloe's taste had been influenced, and she found these so-called gifts to be tacky

Icarus' attention was not on the festivities. Instead, it was solely focused on Chloe. After careful consideration, he said to her, "Ahem, Chloe, have you encountered any difficulties while continuing to maintain such a relationship with Mr. Joseph?"

He could not fathom why Chloe would willingly choose to be in a relationship of that nature with Joseph

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Score 9.5