

Jojo and Coco's Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Chapter 271

Chapter 271 If You Capture Joseph's Heart, I'll Congratulate You

"Stop pretending. You've been eyeing the shares for a long time."

"So? Your purpose for coming here isn't to get shares?"

"I couldn't care less about this meager amount. Only a loser like you would find it appealing." Ava raised her chin arrogantly and sneered.

Chloe grinned and remained silent, waiting for Ava's next words.

"I want to sever ties with Benjamin completely so that when I soar to success, he won't come and bother me anymore," Ava gloated, her voice thick with triumph.

Even without Benjamin, she still had her influential benefactor, who far surpassed Benjamin power and was about to take her to Docwood. But before she left Aesper, she wanted to get

revenge on Chloe first.

in

her

"Haven't you already legally disowned him?" Chloe asked.

"That's not enough. We need to sign a contract," she said, brandishing the document victoriously in her hand before ascending the stairs.

Chloe gazed at Ava's retreating figure, her eyes shimmering with curiosity. She grew increasingly intrigued by what Calvin saw in Ava. Was he planning to groom Ava as his heir?

Before Chloe even stepped foot out of the company, she heard Benjamin's furious outburst. from upstairs. She wanted to laugh. The people in this family were all selfish individuals. What was there to be angry about?

Upon Chloe's return to Fairlight, she happened to encounter Sophia who was about to deliver coffee to Joseph.

Sophia had been carrying out this routine every day since she took her leave of absence, leaving her workstation with a cup of coffee and returning empty-handed.

Initially, Chloe found it believable during the first or second instance, but as it went on a few more times, doubts arose in her mind. 'Is Joseph interested in Sophia, or is Sophia fabricating the whole thing?' she thought.

Chloe blinked and casually picked up a proposal from the table. "Let's go together. I need to submit a proposal to Mr. Joseph."

Sophia was startled and nearly spilled the coffee in her hand, but managed to compose herself. "Then you go ahead. I'm not in a hurry."

If they went together, Chloe would find out that she had been pouring the coffee down the toilet.

Chloe tapped the coffee cup with her hand and asked, "The coffee has gone cold. Are you sure you're not in a hurry?"

Colleagues in the department sensed the tension and raised their heads, silently enjoying the unfolding drama.

Chloe had a beautiful face, and she had been diligently applying face masks recently, resulting in a flawless and delicate complexion akin to a freshly bloomed flower. Moreover, her eyes exuded a captivating allure. Despite Sophia's beauty, she paled in comparison to Chloe.

Sophia gazed at Chloe, her confidence waning. Seeing that Chloe was not going away, she stiffly replied, "Fine, let's go together. Just as long as you don't get jealous."

Chloe smiled ambiguously. "No worries. If you've truly captured Mr. Joseph's heart, I'll congratulate you."

They entered the elevator one after the other.

As the elevator reached Joseph's office floor, Sophia suddenly clutched her stomach, wearing an expression of pain. "Oh, my tummy doesn't feel so good I need to go to the restroom first."

Chloe glanced at the coffee in Sophia's hand. "Should I help you take it to him?"

"No need I can bring it in myself."

Chloe frowned. "She's going to take the coffee into the restroom? Isn't that disgusting?"

Afraid of being exposed, Sophia hurriedly made her way to the restroom.

Lucas, who came out of the restroom, saw her and reached out to stop her.

"What are you doing here again?" he asked, his voice stern.

"Mr. Lucas I'm here to use the restroom."

"Don't we have restrooms downstairs? Why do you come to this floor every day? You don't just use the restroom, you also pour coffee into the toilet. The coffee splashes out of the rim, and the cleaning staff have told me about it several times."

The cleaning staff thought it was him wasting the coffee and admonished him not to be

wasteful

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Score 9.5

Chapter 272 I Heard Everything

Chloe frowned. "You pour the coffee into the toilet? Doesn't all the coffee go to Mr. Joseph?"

Lucas looked puzzled. "Mr. Joseph hasn't had coffee for a long time."

'He has been drinking chamomile tea before you two had your fight, and now he needs even more of it after you two reconciled.'

"But Fia here has been delivering coffee to Mr. Joseph every day, and she said he accepted them..."

"No, she only delivered it once, and I intercepted it. After that, she'd just take a cup of coffee and head to the restroom every day."

As the conversation unfolded, Chloe understood the whole story. Sophia's face turned crimson red. Unable to bear it any longer, she rushed back into the elevator. Just as the elevator doors slid close, she saw Joseph coming out of his office. His large hand casually came to rest on Chloe's slender waist as if he had done it countless times before.

The coffee cup in Sophia's hand was crushed out of shape. 'It's true, Chloe and Mr. Joseph are sugar dating!'

Sophia could not wait to make a phone call to that woman to get further instructions from her. Some people simply could not stand seeing others doing better than them.

Chloe wondered if Joseph had never really remembered Sophia.

She asked, "Do you remember Sophia? The new employee in our department?"

"Nope," Joseph replied indifferently.

Chloe paused, her suspicions confirmed. "Then why did she do all of this? Just to make me angry? It doesn't make sense at all.'

"What's the matter?"

"Fia seems to know about our relationship."

Joseph sat on the sofa, casually propping his legs up on the coffee table. The sunlight from outside reflected on his face, highlighting his exquisitely sculpted handsome features.

He shrugged nonchalantly. "So what if she knows? It's just as you wanted."

He knew that Chloe had long wanted to make their relationship public.

Chloe could not help but retort, “What do you mean by just as I wanted? We’re not allowed to engage in romantic relationships in the office. You made the rules yourself, remember?”

Joseph gazed at her deeply and said arrogantly, “If I have the ability to make rules, do I not have the ability to change them?”

Chloe rolled her eyes at him, but she had to admit that what he said made sense. However, she had not made up her mind about whether to make their relationship public yet. She would feel immensely pressured if it were to be exposed.

When Chloe returned to her department, she noticed her colleagues’ subtle glances and the mysterious atmosphere that pervaded the air. On the other hand, Sophia had a look of amusement on her face as if she was waiting for a good show.

Every department had its gossipmonger, and the marketing department was no exception. Their voices traveled faster than the person themselves.

“Oh my, do you know? It’s been confirmed that Chloe has a fling with Mr. Joseph. Someone actually saw him holding her waist as they entered his office!”

“I knew something was off between them. Which employee would receive a cash reward of 30 thousand dollars in one go? Clearly, there’s something fishy going on.”

“That’s nothing. I have some insider information, and it’s absolutely true!”

“What is it? Tell me quickly!”

“The security guard at the underground parking lot personally saw Chloe getting into Mr. Joseph’s car!”

“That’s concrete evidence! But I heard Chloe comes from an average family. It’s probably just a fling. But let me tell you, I have some insider information too. Remember our former colleague who jumped ship to Baxon? He told me a while back that Chloe knew Mr. Joseph even before joining Fairlight. Rumor has it that Chloe used to work as a maid at Mr. Joseph’s house at night!”

“Damn, this is exciting news! I have to share it with everyone!”

Tania hurriedly rushed into the office, excitement etched onto her face. But before she could retract it, she collided head-on with Chloe, causing her to choke on her saliva and cough frantically.

“Ms. Tania, are you all right?” Chloe gently patted her back, as if she had not heard anything.

Tania’s face turned red from coughing, feeling like her neck had expanded by a size. She was filled with uncertainty and spoke in a faltering manner, “Chloe, you... You didn’t hear anything, right?”

Chloe’s eyes were crystal clear, and under Tania’s hopeful gaze, she shook her head slowly, enunciating each word as if she were a devil. “I heard everything. Every. Single. Word.”

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Score 9.5

Chapter 273 A Dirty Whore

“Ahhh...”

Tania let out a sharp breath, overwhelmed by a sense of embarrassment that made her wish she could simply disappear on the spot. She was merely a gossipmonger and had no ill intent toward Chloe.

Being entangled in a scandalous affair was regarded as disgraceful, yet being entangled in a relationship with someone as accomplished as Joseph was seen as a rare privilege.

“Cough, cough, cough... Chloe, I’m sorry. Can you just let this slide once? I have children to support, and my husband is a gambler. I was just blabbering to ease my boredom. Please don’t take it to heart.”

“Well, I am taking it to heart.”

Tania was on the verge of tears. “Please, I didn’t mean any harm. Just consider it a passing comment.”

Chloe retorted, "If someone said such things about you, would you dismiss it as if it were a passing comment?"

Tania weakly responded, "No..."

"I have a question for you, and you'll answer me honestly. I won't hold it against you."

"No problem! Go ahead."

"Who told you about Mr. Joseph embracing me?"

Without hesitation, Tania replied, "It was Fia!"

Since Sophia had just joined their company recently, Tania did not hold back when it came to sacrificing her.

Sophia was stunned for a moment and she stammered "What's the matter? I saw it with my own eyes. Just because you have Mr. Joseph to back you up, does that mean people can't speak the truth anymore?"

Undaunted, Chloe smiled at her and said, "That is exactly what I mean. If you say another word, I'll tell Mr. Joseph and have you fired."

Sophia was momentarily stunned, not expecting Chloe to admit it so readily. Instantly filled with anger,

she pointed at Chloe and cursed, "You're ruining the integrity of the financial industry! Don't you have any shame, Chloe?"

"And what about you? Do you have any shame?" The smile on Chloe's face disappeared, and her delicate face turned cold. "Do you think it's fine for you to unjustly target me like that for no reason?"

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"How am I targeting you? You're nothing but a dirty whore who got the job through underhanded means. You have no right to work with us. You're unworthy!"

Chloe raised her hand and delivered a resounding slap across Sophia's face. Some people were deserving of respect, but some would take advantage of any inch given to them.

“Oh God...”

All of their colleagues were startled, but nobody dared to step forward to stop Chloe.

Sophia let out a sharp gasp, and a red welt appeared on her cheek. Her eyes widened, trembling with anger. “How dare you hit me! Everyone, did you see that? This filthy woman slapped me first! All of you should bear witness for me. Such a person can’t be allowed to stay in Fairlight!”

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“You brought this upon yourself. Firstly, I never said anything about hating dogs to you. Secondly, you unjustly played the victim in front of Joseph and falsely accused me. And thirdly, ever since you arrived at Fairlight, you’ve been constantly picking on me. On what basis do you treat me like this?”

“I didn’t! I’m innocent! You’re just using your connections and relying on Mr. Joseph’s favoritism toward you to bully a newcomer like me!”

Chloe looked at Sophia and suddenly smiled. “Be that as it may, what can you do to me?”

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Score 9.5

Chapter 274 Being a Mistress Offers No Future Prospects

Sophia was driven crazy by her shamelessness. “Why you... Have you no shame?”

“Shame? Yeah, I have no shame. I indeed entered Fairlight through the backdoor and Joseph does favor me. Just a few sweet nothings whispered in his ear, and he would have you fired. Smart people know to please me, but you resorted to scheming against me. How foolish can you be?”

Infuriated and knowing that the rumors had already spread, Chloe decided to unleash herself. Joseph was far from being a middle-aged man. He possessed both striking looks and abundant wealth. Therefore, even if she were entangled in such a relationship, it would hardly be a cause

for shame.

Lucas entered the department to announce some team-building matters, only to stumble upon the heated argument between Chloe and Sophia. He was momentarily taken aback and unsure whether to intervene or retreat.

In her desperation, Sophia caught sight of Lucas and immediately grabbed him, pouring out her grievances. "Mr. Lucas, Chloe slapped me and even threatened to have Mr. Joseph fire me. She's spouting nonsense. I haven't done anything wrong. Please help me!"

Lucas discreetly distanced himself from her, wearing a professional smile on his face. "I'm sorry, but you have indeed been dismissed."

Chloe's eyelid twitched and deeply suspected that Lucas was playing along with her charade. In reality, it was not Lucas cooperating with her, but Joseph.

Joseph had inquired about Sophia after she left. Upon hearing about her persistent coffee deliveries, he waved his hand, instructing Lucas to inform HR to terminate her employment. After all, someone like Sophia whose heart was not focused on work would only hinder productivity if kept around, and the department members might even have to clean up

her.

after

Unfortunately, Lucas had not yet had the opportunity to notify the HR department of Joseph's decision.

Sophia found this hard to believe. "Mr. Lucas, you're joking, right?"

"Pack up your belongings. Finance will settle your accounts."

Realizing further resistance was futile, Sophia refrained from causing any more trouble. Like a defeated hen, she hung her head in silence, gathered her belongings, and left.

Lucas watched Sophia leave the marketing department and then proceeded to announce a team-building trip before leaving as well. Once he departed,

the other workers cast curious glances toward Chloe, but no one dared to approach and inquire further.

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Only one colleague, who had maintained a relatively decent relationship with Chloe, cautiously asked, “Chloe, were your words just spoken out of anger earlier?”

Chloe paused, sensing the inquisitive gazes from all directions, and flashed a radiant smile, “Of course. Fia always intentionally targets me, and it’s been getting on my nerves.”

The colleague patted her chest and said, “I knew you weren’t that kind of person. Let me tell you, even though Mr. Joseph is rich, being a mistress offers no future prospects.”

Chloe blinked. “You’re right.”

After leaving Fairlight, Sophia immediately dialed the woman’s phone number. “I got fired. You promised to compensate me.”

“Don’t worry.” A gentle voice came through the phone. “The money will be transferred to you shortly. Besides that, do you have any other useful information to provide?”

With the promise providing a glimmer of hope, Sophia’s spirits lifted slightly. “I overheard discussions in the finance department about a company-wide team-building trip. It appears they’re planning a three-day, two-night vacation. Oh, and by the way, Chloe was offered an endorsement deal. It’s scheduled for this Friday, but I’m unsure if she’ll attend.”

Sophia’s workstation was situated very close to Chloe’s, so she could easily listen in to any phone calls or voice messages.

There was a brief pause on the other end. “What’s the location of the team-building?”

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Score 9.5

Chapter 275 You Can't Expose Yourself in Public So Blatantly

Today was Tuesday, and everyone was overjoyed since they were all going on an all-expenses- paid team-building trip.

Joseph was always generous to his employees, providing ample funds for the event. They had booked Graceville Estate which offered amenities such as hot springs, a horse stable, archery, and even a game room for entertainment.

Everyone was excited, but some of them had family matters to attend to and stayed behind to work in the office. Those who went on the trip brought their laptops with them in case there were any urgent work matters to address.

Chloe joined everyone in boarding the bus for the journey. On the way, a lady from the administration department distributed the hotel key cards.

Initially, it was planned for two people to share a room. However, when it was Chloe's turn, she was handed a key card for a single deluxe room. The staff member explained, "We're out of double rooms, so you and another colleague will have to stay in separate rooms."

Chloe was delighted by the arrangement as she preferred to have a room to herself.

Graceville Estate was spacious, and since it was not the weekend, there were very few vacationers.

After locating her assigned room and finishing her unpacking, there was a knock on the door. Chloe thought it was a colleague of hers that she had made plans with on the bus to play card games together.

"Coming," she called out, getting up to open the door only to find Joseph standing at the doorway.

Dressed in a black overcoat, Joseph exuded an air of elegance. His tall and well-proportioned figure, coupled with the corridor lights casting a noble and cool glow on his face, further enhanced his captivating presence.

Chloe stepped aside to let him in and immediately told him about the Friday audition. "You've come at the right time. I have to leave the trip early because I have something on Friday."

Joseph frowned. "Are you talking about the audition?"

"Yes, it's for the position of Exotic Star's brand ambassador," she said. After that, she briefly explained what Noah had told her about the role.

"No," Joseph flatly refused without leaving any room for negotiation.

Chloe was taken aback. "Why not?"

"You can't expose yourself in public so blatantly."

"But I don't do it often. Besides, there's no guarantee they'll choose me."

"No, I won't let you do it," he replied as his brows furrowed. "Even if I agree, Grandpa won't approve."

Chloe was resolute in her decision not to give up. The prospect of earning 30 million dollars was simply too enticing for her to let slip away.

She lightly clasped Joseph's pinky finger and gently shook it, murmuring under her breath, Just this once. I've already said yes, and it wouldn't look good to back out now. Santiago has high expectations of me. In the entertainment industry, there are only a handful of celebrities who have earned Santiago's approval. This is a golden opportunity given to me by fate, and I must seize it. Otherwise, I won't receive any more favors in the future!"

She knew that she could not be too forceful when negotiating with Joseph. Therefore, she adopted a soft and somewhat coquettish demeanor.

Joseph coldly snorted in response to her twisted reasoning. "I'll let you do it if you can convince Grandpa."

Her eyes lit

up,

and her gaze sparkled with enthusiasm. "Really?" she asked.

"Yes," he affirmed.

Harold had a strong aversion to the entertainment industry. When it came to someone entering his family, he did not care much about their background. What truly mattered to him was their character and temperament, which had

to be pure and straightforward. However, most of those who made it in the entertainment industry were ambitious and crafty, and since he was so fond of Chloe, he might not allow it.

Chloe was confident in herself. She took out her phone and headed to the corridor outside, dialing Harold's number. Ten minutes later, she returned with a triumphant smile.

"Grandpa said yes!" she exclaimed.

Joseph lazily raised his head and looked at her. "How did you manage to trick him?" he asked.

"What do you mean trick him? I just had a sincere conversation with him," Chloe replied.

"Fine, since he agreed, I won't say anything else. But this is a one-time exception, and it doesn't set a precedent," Joseph declared.

Joseph kept his word and did not make things difficult for her. He decided to close one eye toward the matter because of the relationship between the Whitmans and the Sullivans. He considered it a matter of networking and maintaining goodwill.

Chloe happily embraced Joseph, her face beaming with a smile. She planted a kiss on his cheek and exclaimed, "Jojo, I knew you were the best!"

He stared at the woman who was inches away from him, his eyes burning with desire, and his

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Adam's apple bobbed up and down in his throat.

Just when he was about to take the next step, the doorbell rang.

"Who is it?" Chloe called out toward the door.

"It's me, Chloe. We're about to start the game. Are you done unpacking?" her colleague replied.

"Oh... um, you go ahead. I still have some things to sort out," Chloe responded.

“I’ll wait for you. We can go together. By the way, there’s something I wanted to discuss with you.”

Chloe sighed, knowing she had to open the door. She placed her index finger to her lips, signaling to Joseph not to speak.

Joseph remained silent, raising an eyebrow in slight disbelief.

Chloe opened the door slightly, looking at her colleague outside. “What’s the matter?”

Her colleague hesitated, feeling a bit embarrassed. “Let’s talk inside.”

Chloe politely declined, “Um... My room is kind of a mess. Let’s talk here.”

“Okay. Can I sleep in the same room as you? There are only two of us here from Marketing and we were assigned to separate rooms, but I’m kind of scared of sleeping alone at night...’

Chloe stared at her colleague’s innocent face and forced out a dry smile. “I have terrible sleeping habits. I snore, grind my teeth, and... Well, you get the idea. How about I help you switch rooms with someone else who wants to have a separate room?”

“That works too. Thank you, Chloe!”

“Not a problem-” Chloe’s words trailed off as her voice abruptly stopped, and her entire body tensed up.

Joseph had silently approached her from behind, interlocking his fingers with Chloe’s and planting a kiss on her delicate, fair neck, sending a shiver of tingling sensation throughout her body.

Thinking that Chloe was feeling unwell, her colleague asked, “Are you okay? Do you feel sick or something?”

Chapter 276 I’m Fine

Chloe suppressed her shivers and felt her face heating up.

“I’m... I’m fine,” she managed to reply.

Upon hearing her response, Joseph mischievously placed his other hand on her waist, slowly moving it upward while increasing the intensity of his kiss. Her delicate skin tingled at his touch, turning red and purplish under his lips.

“Are you sure you’re okay? Your face suddenly turned red... Are you having a fever?” her colleague hesitated and expressed concern.

Feeling a sharp pain on the back of her neck, Chloe could not help but let out a groan. Both she and her colleague froze.

Chloe closed her eyes in embarrassment, wishing she could find a hole to hide in. ‘Damn! What the hell was that? Why would such a sound come out of my mouth? I felt a pain, and that came out of my mouth?! People might think I’m having sex right now!’

Her colleague’s face also turned red. Feeling a little scared, she stumbled for an excuse before hurrying away.

Watching her colleague disappear from sight, Chloe pushed away the man behind her and exclaimed, “What the hell were you doing?! Do you have any idea how embarrassing that was?! She might think something’s wrong with me!”

Joseph gazed at the hickeys on her neck, which stood out prominently against her fair skin. A smirk formed at the corner of his mouth as he said, “You’re making me state the obvious. Do you want to go for another round?!”

“No!” Chloe angrily grabbed her phone from the sofa. “I’m going to join my colleagues now. Goodbye!”

The workers were free to engage in any activities they wanted for the whole afternoon and would only gather for dinner in the evening. When Chloe arrived at the game room, her colleagues looked at her with peculiar expressions. She felt strange and wondered if someone had been talking about her behind her back again.

“Chloe, there’s something on your neck... You might want to pull up your collar,” one of her colleagues suggested.

‘Huh?’

Curiously, Chloe went to the restroom to check. To her surprise, several vivid hickeys were imprinted on her neck.

Her mind went blank, and a surge of embarrassment coursed through her entire body. However, the more intense it became, the more she had to pretend to be calm. Silently, she raised her collar and composedly said, "It's nothing. Come, let's play cards."

The game room was located next to a hot spring, surrounded by glass windows that offered a view of the outside scenery. After playing for about two hours, Chloe's performance was mediocre, and she lost about 30 dollars.

As she raised her head, she caught a glimpse of a familiar figure passing by outside—a graceful and elegant silhouette. Who else could it be but Xavia?

Chloe froze, unsure if her eyes were playing tricks on her. She said to her colleagues, "You guys continue without me. I'm going out for a walk."

"Hey, are you upset about losing 30 dollars?" a colleague asked.

She answered honestly, "Yeah, a little."

The colleague was speechless.

By the time Chloe exited the game room, Xavia was nowhere to be seen. The only direction this path led to was the hot spring. Chloe followed it and found Xavia sitting by the poolside, her back facing her.

Although Xavia's arm was recovering well, she still could not enter the water for the time being. She simply sat by the edge of the hot spring, immersing her feet in the soothing warmth of the water. Her slender legs delicately swayed within the pool, a graceful motion that exuded a sense of tranquility.

However, the toll of chemotherapy was evident, as her once vibrant figure appeared somewhat frail and her knee bones faintly peeked through her skin.

As if sensing someone behind her, Xavia turned her head. A surprised expression overcame her face. "Ms. Chloe? What a coincidence. I didn't know you were here."

'Coincidence? Didn't know I was here? She's talking like she came here first.'

Chloe frowned, but she quickly regained her composure. “My company’s having a team- building trip here.”

“No wonder I saw a lot of people when I checked in. Usually, there aren’t many people here before the weekend,” Xavia remarked.

“What about you? Did you come here alone?” Chloe asked.

Xavia smiled and replied, “Yes. I don’t have many friends, after all.”

Chloe exchanged a few more words with her before ending the conversation. On the way back, she took the initiative to send a message to Joseph, informing him that she had run into Xavia.

Joseph seemed to be free at the moment and instantly replied, [Did you go to the hot spring? Are you wearing a swimsuit? I forbid you from going out while dressed so skimpily.]

Chloe was lost for words. But though she was left speechless by Joseph’s response, she could not help but feel a sense of satisfaction that his attention was not directed toward Xavia.

It was reminiscent of a question circulating online: [If a guy encounters his ex in a hospital, and his first concern is her instead of his girlfriend’s reason for being there, they are likely to have a fight.]

“Hey, beautiful. You’re quite the looker. How about giving me your number?”

A man suddenly blocked Chloe’s path, his lecherous gaze wandering over her body.

She felt disgusted and said, “Buzz off.”

“Such a spicy temper, and I do love me a feisty girl. I’m rich. Want to come with me to my room? You can name your price,” he persisted.

“Fuck off! I’ll call for help if you don’t get out of my way,” she threatened.

The man’s imposing stature and muscular build made Chloe hesitate to confront him directly.. The narrow path added to her unease as there was limited space for escape or assistance.

She was aware of the unpredictable reactions some men could have when faced with rejection. Society had shown her that some individuals, when rejected, could respond with vulgar language, aggression, or even physical violence.

Fortunately, the man she encountered had not crossed that line yet.

“I’m the general manager of Exotic Star’s branch in Aesper City. Look at this card. It requires a minimum spending of 7 million dollars to get it, and my account still has 1.5 mil dollars. You can spend it as you wish,” the man bragged.

Chloe furrowed her brow and responded, “I don’t want it.”

“Stop acting all high and mighty. I know all you women love jewelry,” he said. As he spoke, he reached out and suddenly touched her back.

Chloe instinctively pushed him away while shouting angrily, “Don’t touch me!”

Chapter 277 Am I Just a Pretty Accessory?

The man immediately flew into a rage upon hearing her words and forcefully grabbed her clothes, pulling her into the nearby bushes.

Chloe screamed in fear, her voice echoing through the air. The colleagues playing cards nearby rushed to the scene when they heard her screaming.

“Hey! Who are you?! Let go of her!” one of the colleagues shouted.

“Get away from her! If you keep touching her, I’ll call the police!” another colleague

threatened.

Seeing the growing number of people gathering, the man sneered dismissively. “I just wanted to have some fun with her. Who knew she’d overreact? Those hickeys on her neck prove that she’s a loose woman.”

Chloe’s colleagues who were in the game room earlier grew restless when she failed to return, so they decided to step outside for a stroll. Unexpectedly, they had heard her cries for help.

“You sicko! Any normal person would assume that the hickeys on my neck are love bites from my boyfriend. Only people like you who hold such perverted views would say such things to conceal your own wicked deeds!” Chloe angrily rebuked the man.

The man was unaffected by her verbal assault. The loose suit he wore clung to his body as if it were tailor-made, emphasizing his intimidating presence. A designer belt adorned his waist, adding a touch of style to his street thug persona. As he walked away, he cast one last glance at Chloe, seemingly telling her to watch herself as he had his eyes on her.

This made everyone feel uncomfortable and inexplicably apprehensive, giving rise to an unsettling sensation throughout their bodies. Chloe furrowed her brows tightly, and a shiver ran down her spine.

Her colleagues recognized the gravity of the situation. “I have a feeling this person holds grudges. For the next few days, try to stick with the group during activities and avoid being

alone.”

“Huh? Seriously? I just recorded him harassing Chloe and uploaded the video online...” another girl said as she held up her phone.

“Don’t worry, you don’t have many followers. You’re just an ordinary person, so it’s fine,”

someone reassured her.

This brief incident soon passed. During the evening dinner, Lucas absentmindedly scrolled through his phone and stumbled upon a video everyone initially thought would have little attention. To his surprise, it had already amassed a hundred thousand views.

He immediately sent the video to Joseph.

“Sir, it seems that Ms. Chloe was bullied.”

When Joseph saw the video, a few directors were currying favor with him in his suite.

In the video, Chloe fiercely resisted the man's advances. However, the man persisted, uttering vulgar and offensive words. If it had not been for the timely arrival of her colleagues, the consequences could have been unimaginable.

When the man mentioned that he was a general manager of Aesper's Exotic Star, Joseph narrowed his eyes. Surrounded by a haze of smoke, his eyes filled with determination. He forcefully stubbed out his cigarette in the ashtray and muttered a curse under his breath.

'Why didn't that dumbo tell me about it when someone harassed her? What am I? A pretty accessory?'

His voice, filled with frustration, echoed through the room, stunning the directors who were engaged in their flattery.

Had they flattered him incorrectly? It seemed not.

Joseph leaned back in his chair and announced in an icy cold tone, "I'm tired."

"Get some rest, sir. I'll come and get you when the dinner starts," one of the directors. responded, and they quickly left the room.

Once they were gone, Joseph called Noah.

Noah was surprised to receive a call from Joseph and knew there must be a big reason for him to call. After all, Joseph was not a businessman who liked expanding his social connections.

"Mr. Joseph, is there something you need from me?" Noah asked.

"Not really. I just want to inform you that Chloe won't be going for the audition," Joseph replied.

Noah paused for a moment. "May I know if this is your decision or Ms. Chloe's?"

"I can make decisions on her behalf."

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Score 9.5

Chapter 278 Simply Put, She's My Wife

"It would be better for Ms. Chloe herself to inform me about this," Noah said, his tone remaining confident and gentle.

Joseph sneered, his voice solemn. "Rather than seeking endorsements for promotion, I

suggest your company focuses on its own employees. No amount of promotion can erase the discerning eyes of the public. Character is synonymous with value. Since you operate in the jewelry industry, where the majority of customers are women, shouldn't your employees show some respect toward women?"

Noah narrowed his eyes. "I don't understand what you're saying, Mr. Joseph."

"If you don't understand, you can go online and find the answers," Joseph replied coldly.

Due to the large number of employees at Fairlight, they could not fit everyone inside the dining hall, so the dinner was arranged to take place outside. The evening breeze blew gently, and the lights created a pleasant atmosphere.

When Joseph arrived, Chloe and the other employees had been waiting for more than ten minutes. His seat was at the front, and as he passed by a table, he overheard a group whispering among themselves, causing him to pause in his tracks.

"Did you hear that Sophia from Marketing got fired?"

"Who's Sophia? I've never heard that name before."

"She's that beautiful girl who joined our office not long ago."

"Oh, I see. What happened to her?"

"I'm not sure if this is true or not, but I heard that she was spreading rumors about Chloe and Mr. Joseph having an affair. That's why she got fired."

"It's not a rumor. It's true."

A male voice suddenly interrupted their conversation. The group of chatters shivered and turned around in unison to see Joseph standing behind them. His hands were inside his pockets and he was looking down at them.

His face was impeccably sculpted, each feature carefully carved to perfection. Every angle and contour showcased his striking masculinity, exuding an aura that captivated all who beheld

him.

Without waiting for their reaction, he walked to the stage.

“I have an announcement to make. Fairlight is canceling the ‘no office romance’ policy and will be adopting an open management approach in this regard. Each department will decide on

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such matters at their own discretion.”

A silence so profound settled over the venue that one could hear a pin drop. People took a moment to process what was happening. Joseph then gestured toward Chloe and called her up.

“You, come here.”

It was just a short distance, yet Chloe felt an unprecedented level of attention as she crossed it. Her palms grew sweaty as her nervousness mounted, yet her eyes sparkled like stars as they fixated unwaveringly on the tall and handsome man before her, her cheeks blushing a rosy hue.

“What are you doing?” Chloe whispered to Joseph.

“Haven’t you guessed yet?” Joseph raised an eyebrow, his tone filled with amusement.

Chloe knew what he was going to do, but she felt too shy to say it aloud, so she simply shook her head with a bashful smile.

“You dummy,” Joseph remarked, his eyebrows raised in playful exasperation.

Chloe remained silent.

Meanwhile, Xavia stood in the distance, observing the scene from the shadows. On the stage, the handsome man and beautiful woman exuded unparalleled harmony that appeared to transcend any imperfections.

She clenched her fist tightly, her nails stabbing into her palm yet she did not feel the pain.

“Today, we have two pieces of good news,” Joseph announced, “First, Ms. Wendy from Marketing has successfully given birth to her son tonight. After working for many years and contributing greatly to the company’s profits, she’ll be promoted to a mid-level management position upon her return from maternity leave.

“Second, you may have heard some rumors about me and Chloe recently. First and foremost, she is my woman, but not in a transactional sense. Simply put, we are husband and wife.”

Chloe raised her head, tears welling up in her eyes as her heart bloomed like a flower. No woman would not yearn for such a sense of security.

Jojo and Coco’s Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Score 9.5

Chapter 279 It Did Not Matter

Joseph could feel Chloe’s gaze upon him. He lowered his eyes and a smile played at the corners of his lips. His icy gaze was filled with tenderness as he leaned down and whispered, “Is this what you wanted?”

To him, it did not matter whether their relationship was announced or not. He just disliked having his private life scrutinized. But if it meant that Chloe would lose her sense of security and constantly bother him, he preferred to avoid unnecessary trouble.

Unable to contain herself, Chloe threw herself into his arms, her eyes filling with happiness. ” Jojo, you were so cool! I love you!!”

The people below finally reacted, shouting in unison, “Congratulations to Mr. Joseph and Ms. Chloe!”

“May you have a long and harmonious marriage!”

Some bolder individuals hollered, “Kiss! Kiss! Kiss!”

People naturally loved to join in the excitement. With one person shouting, the second and third followed suit... Eventually, all the employees joined in, creating a resounding and synchronized cheer.

Chloe’s face turned crimson. She looked at the man, who was looking at her intently, and shyly said, “We should go down-”

Before she could finish her sentence, Joseph’s thin lips descended upon hers.

Chloe widened her eyes, and her mind went blank. She felt incredibly embarrassed to kiss in front of so many people. However, his kiss was passionate, and she quickly became immersed in it. It felt as if an hour had passed before the kiss finally ended.

Her breath grew heavy, and her gaze clouded with desire. Her plump and rosy lips glistened and appeared translucent by the moist kisses bestowed upon them. They seemed to beckon him, silently urging him for more.

Joseph took a deep breath, forcing himself to avert his gaze. He knew that the foolish woman was deliberately tempting him, but he still fell into her trap. From his initial disdain of her, he had unknowingly turned into someone who savored every moment with her, especially at this

moment.

With the way she looked, he really wanted to pin her down and thoroughly indulge himself.

After they stepped down from the stage, Chloe did not return to her previous seat. Joseph led

her to the front row where the board members were seated. The attitude of the board

members toward her changed remarkably fast. After all, people who could reach such positions were skilled in the art of flattery.

After enjoying a satisfying meal and drinks, Chloe sent a congratulatory message to Wendy. Five minutes later, Wendy replied, blessing her and Joseph with a lifetime of happiness together.

As Chloe gazed at Wendy's wishes, her ears flushed with warmth. She had expected Joseph to announce their relationship. What she had not expected was for him to reveal that they were husband and wife. The status of a wife held far greater weight than that of a girlfriend, especially considering the Whitmans' prestigious background.

Throughout the night, Chloe felt her body and mind being enveloped in sweetness as if she had consumed honey. However, she could not shake off the persistent sensation of being

watched.

Every time she turned her head, all she saw was a patch of darkness engulfing the surrounding bushes. Frowning, she chose not to dwell on it, but that unsettling feeling of being watched refused to dissipate.

After the dinner, Joseph had a few drinks. Chloe accompanied him to the presidential suite, where she handed him a bottle of yogurt.

"Have some yogurt. It's good for your stomach," she said, her face gentle and serene, resembling a qualified virtuous wife.

Suddenly, Joseph recalled the first time he had brought Chloe to his family home. He had been drinking, and she had fed him yogurt in the same manner. It was hard to believe that so much time had passed.

Gazing at the woman in front of him, Joseph was overwhelmed by an unprecedented sensation of warmth. He chuckled softly, lowered his head, and took a few spoonfuls.

Chloe placed the yogurt on the bedside table and glanced at the time. "You should get some rest. I'm going back to my room to sleep too."

Joseph frowned in displeasure. "Let's both sleep here."

"That's inappropriate... Even though our relationship is public now, we still need to maintain a low profile when we're outside."

“Come here.” Joseph extended his hand.

Chloe’s actions were quicker than her thoughts, and before she could respond verbally, her hand had already reached out to meet his. She felt frustrated at her tendency to be drawn to attractive men.

She could only blame Joseph for being too good-looking. She could not get enough of him even after seeing him every day.

With no opportunity for her to respond, Joseph swiftly shifted his position, pinning her beneath him. Radiating an inherent authority akin to that of a born leader, he spoke with

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unwavering conviction, “Stay with me tonight.”

Their faces were merely inches apart, and their noses almost brushed against each other. Being an adult, it went without saying that Chloe knew what was going to happen next. Her cheeks blazed with a heat that could rival a boiling kettle, yet this time she mustered the courage to express her refusal.

“Not tonight. I have an audition lined up at Docwood on Friday evening. Can you wait until I finish the audition and return?”

Jojo and Coco’s Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Score 9.5

Chapter 280 Feeling Loved

“You don’t need to go for the audition,” Joseph said.

Under the influence of alcohol, he began his advances like an ambitious predator.

A chill ran through Chloe’s body as she lowered her head, only to find her clothes torn. She felt a mixture of embarrassment and anxiety as she pleaded, “Jojo, please! Give me a few more days!”

Joseph's breath grew uneven. He caressed her face with his large hand as he gazed at her deeply, "Didn't you long to have me? It's not like you haven't undressed in front of me before. Why the shyness?"

Chloe felt the urge to burst into tears. The actions she had taken thus far were out of desperation, fueled by the mistaken belief that he was Jake's uncle. If she had been aware of the truth, she would never have allowed herself to engage in such behavior. 1

Joseph ignored her and refused to stop. Chloe's struggles were futile, so she surrendered and let nature take its course.

However, it seemed that something unexpected always happened during such moments.

Joseph's phone began to ring, interrupting the moment.

He furrowed his brow and his gaze turned cold, clearly annoyed by the untimely call.

Seizing the opportunity while Joseph reached for his phone, Chloe managed to escape from his embrace.

"Mr. Joseph, I apologize for disturbing you so late," Noah's gentle voice echoed from the other end.

Most people would not mind a late call, but it only agitated Joseph further.

"If you know you're disturbing me, then why did you call?"

Even though Noah was young, he had been involved in Exotic Star's business since a young age. He had participated in numerous business dealings, so despite Joseph's impolite tone, he remained composed and expressed his apologies once again.

Joseph pressed his temple, his tone icy as he said, "Get to the point."

"Regarding the issue we discussed earlier, I've thoroughly investigated the matter and even seen the online videos. I deeply apologize for what happened to Ms. Chloe. The manager in Aesper has already been dismissed, and we'll ensure that such incidents won't occur again."

Joseph sneered. "That's what you should have done."

“Then, we hope Ms. Chloe will attend the audition as planned.”

“She’s not going.”

Chloe could not hear Noah’s voice, but she faintly sensed that they were talking about her. She perked up her ears and openly eavesdropped on the conversation happening next to Joseph.

Noah remained composed as he said. “This wasn’t Ms. Chloe’s idea, and I’ve already discussed this matter with Mr. Harold. He said he’ll respect Ms. Chloe’s decision. As Ms. Chloe’s companion, you should also show her respect. Excessive possessiveness can have unintended consequences, Mr. Joseph.”

Noah always seemed to maintain an innocent and pure facade while delivering the sharpest remarks.

Joseph scoffed disdainfully as he hung up the phone without hesitation.

Blinking her eyes, Chloe said with determination. “I want to go for the audition at Exotic Star.”

She did not want to owe Joseph too much. While a woman could rely on a man, she also should possess the ability to earn her own money, especially when there was a long-term economic disparity between the two. It could inevitably affect their relationship to some extent.

She deeply understood that. Even if she were to sell her blood or her body, she would never be able to reach the same financial level as Joseph. However, she wanted to repay the money she owed him. With that, even if they were to argue in the future, it would not put her at a disadvantage.

Joseph’s shirt hung loosely on his body, accentuating his broad chest and chiseled abdomen. His powerful physique caused Chloe to gulp nervously. However, he remained unmoved, resolute in his decision to not let her go.

With her hands on her hips, Chloe glared at him and pouted. “I’ll tell Grandpa about this!”

Joseph's lips twitched. "Are you trying to force me?"

"No, I'm just thinking of confiding in Grandpa and sharing my bitter tears."

"That's enough!" he interrupted her, "I'll let you go, but only under certain conditions."

Chloe's eyes sparkled. "What conditions?"

"You are going to stay and keep my bed warm tonight," he replied.

Having shared a bed together before, she readily agreed.

Joseph gazed deeply at Chloe. It seemed to him that she did not fully understand what he

wanted, so he added, "To warm the bed, you need to remove all your clothes so that I can truly feel the warmth."

Chloe was taken aback, overwhelmed by a rush of shame. But in order to make it to the audition, she reluctantly nodded as her face flushed red.

Although this was supposed to be a team-building trip, Joseph and Chloe spent most of their time together after Joseph publicly announced their romantic relationship.

On Thursday afternoon, one of Chloe's colleagues from the marketing department invited her to hang out in the game room. After a moment's thought, she agreed since she realized that she had not been in touch with her colleagues much these past few days.

She glanced at Joseph, who was sitting on the sofa dealing with his work, and said, "I'll be going to Docwood tonight, so I'm going to go spend some time with my colleagues now."

Joseph had no objections as long as she did not go to the hot springs. If she wanted to enjoy a

dip in a hot spring, he would rather buy a private resort for her.

There was no need for her to be clad in skimpy clothing and squeeze into a pool with strangers. It was unhygienic and dirty.

