

Jojo and Coco's Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Chapter 351

Chapter 351 The Best Gift

Chloe was taken aback. "That's Xavia. You've seen her photos before."

Emily paused for a moment, then anger surged through her. "That's her? She's the one who used pregnancy to come in between you and Joseph?"

Those words, spoken loudly and accompanied by a pointed finger, carried across the vicinity, catching the attention of the surrounding shoppers. They turned their gazes toward Xavia, their expressions filled with a mix of gossip and disdain.

Xavia was trying on the latest fashions in a luxury boutique. Hearing the discussions, her expression remained unchanged, and she calmly walked over to greet Chloe

"Are you also here to buy clothes, Ms. Chloe? What a coincidence," she said gracefully as if she had not heard Emily's insults. With warmth and gentleness, she asked, "I want to buy a gift for Joe to celebrate his upcoming fatherhood. Do you have any suggestions, Ms. Chloe?"

Emily's anger flared up, and she lashed out, "Jeez, I've never met someone as shameless as you. What's there to be proud of as a homewrecker? Why flaunt it?"

It seemed to her that Xavia had a lot of nerve to provoke Chloe in front of her.

Xavia remained unruffled and said, "I think there's some misunderstanding here. When I was

with Joe, Ms. Chloe was still just a student. Besides, we were naturally drawn to each other. How can you say I'm a homewrecker?"

"Oh, so you think you're superior just because you're older? Does age give you the right to sleep with someone else's husband?" Emily pressed on, her confrontational spirit continued.

to rise

A flicker of sadness appeared on Xavia's face as she replied, "If that's how you choose to see it, then there's nothing I can say. But from what I've gathered, Ms. Chloe values marriage greatly. I must acknowledge my share of responsibility for what happened between Chloe and Joe. Perhaps my decision to return to Aesper was a mistake in the first place.

Emily could not help but roll her eyes, feeling a crackle of electricity run down her spine as she listened to Xavia insinuate that Joseph could not resist falling in love with her due to some supposed extraordinary charm upon her return.

"I visited a church last month and they gave me a token. After wearing it, not only did I conceive a new life, but I also found the man of my dreams. Now, I want to give this token to you, Ms. Chloe. I hope it'll bring you good fortune and guide you to your true soulmate."

Chloe stared at the token, her smile turning cold as she said, "No need. You can keep it for yourself."

"It's all right. Please accept it," Xavia insisted, her tone laced with a hidden meaning and her

eyes gleaming with malicious mockery. "I heard about your mother's unhappy marriage. Although it may sound superstitious, there are moments when one must have faith in

something. Perhaps this token will improve everything for you. If you end up as pitiful as your mother in the future, I'll feel sorry for you."

Deep furrows formed on Chloe's forehead, and her eyes emanated a chilling aura.

Unable to restrain herself any longer, Emily stepped forward to push Xavia, but Chloe stopped her. Xavia was pregnant. They would be in big trouble if something were to happen to her.

Emily could not contain her anger and snarled, "Can't you see? She's doing this on purpose!"

It went without saying that Chloe knew Xavia was doing it on purpose. She whispered softly, "Whether Xavia is trying to provoke me or flaunt her situation, I have the means to retaliate."

After all, she was currently carrying Joseph's supplementary credit card, and there was only one such unlimited supplementary card.

"Wait a minute." Chloe's almond-shaped eyes shimmered innocently as she looked at Xavia. "You were asking for gift suggestions for Joseph, right?"

Xavia nodded slightly, puzzled by Chloe's unexpected reaction. "Yes, Ms. Chloe. Do you have any suggestions?"

"I do, in fact," Chloe said. "Since Joseph only wears custom-made clothes and isn't interested in watches or cars, I believe the best gift would be the child in your belly. If you can confirm that it's his child, that would be the greatest gift of all."

Although Chloe was unaware of the truth, the fact that Joseph insisted on amniocentesis meant there was something suspicious about the child in Xavia's womb.

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Score 9.5

Chapter 352 Something That a Single Man Can't Understand

Xavia's smile froze on her face. "What are you talking about? If it's not Joseph's child, who else could it be?"

"Is that so? Well, that's good," Chloe replied calmly. Her gaze casually drifted toward a nearby suit, and she instructed the salesperson, "Please pack this suit for me."

Xavia was perplexed. "Who are you buying that suit for?"

'Is she buying it for Icarus? Did he already win her over? That's faster than I expected."

Chloe's lips formed an elegant smile, enunciating each syllable clearly as she said, "Joseph."

Xavia thought she must have misheard and repeated her question.

“I said I’m buying this outfit for Joseph.” Chloe’s eyes sparkled, her smile radiant. “Although we’re divorced, we can still be friends. You wouldn’t mind, would you?”

After all, Xavia had done the same thing. She approached Joseph under the guise of friendship. She even went to lengths and helped Chloe endure a stab. One could not deny that this woman was ruthless and had a sharper mind than Ava.

“Of course, you can,” Xavia said after she composed herself, veiling her sarcasm. “It’s just that Joseph never wears such cheap clothes. Ms. Chloe, your taste seems to differ from ours.”

“He may not like wearing them, but it’s different when it comes from me,” Chloe stated confidently.

Then, right in front of Xavia, she pulled out the supplementary card to pay for the suit and instructed the salesperson to deliver it directly to Fairlight. She did not care whether Joseph would wear the suit or not. All she wanted to do now was humiliate Xavia.

As soon as Xavia saw that black and gold supplementary card, she was stunned. She could not believe that Joseph had given his only supplementary card to Chloe. Even she did not receive such treatment five years ago!

Xavia could not bear the stark contrast in treatment. While maintaining her composure and refusing to show her defeat, she forced a smile, found an excuse, and left.

“Wow, you’re amazing, Coco! Just a few words and you managed to chase that bitch away. I thought we’d have to fight her!” Emily said, looking at Chloe admiringly.

“People like Xavia can’t be dealt with using primitive methods. She sees herself as an upper-class person, and what does the upper-class fear the most?” Chloe asked.

“Bankruptcy?” Emily suggested.

Chloe shook her head. “While it’s true that they fear bankruptcy, I can’t make her go bankrupt. What they fear the most, apart from financial ruin, is losing face and being made inferior to

another. After all, having enjoyed a life of superiority, they believe themselves to be extremely noble and consider themselves different from us commoners.”

“Oh, I see. And what about the suit? Are you really going to give it to Joseph?” Emily asked.

Chloe paused momentarily, then asked the salesperson, “I’m sorry, can this item be returned? I no longer want it.”

The salesperson put on a professional smile and replied, “I’m sorry, dear. We only accept returns for quality issues at the moment.”

“Then please help me deliver this card to Fairlight as well,” Chloe said.

This way, she would not have to make a trip to Fairlight anymore.

“Sure, no problem. Would you like me to add on a greeting card?” the salesperson asked.

“Whatever,” Chloe replied casually. After all, she knew that the chances of Joseph wearing or even looking at the suit were highly unlikely.

Having witnessed the events that unfolded, the salesperson assumed that Chloe was competing with another woman for a man. After some thought, they decided to write a message on the greeting card commonly used by couples.

Fairlight.

Lucas collected the gift box containing the suit and supplementary card from the front desk and presented them to Joseph.

“Sir, Ms. Chloe sent these. There’s also a card attached…”

Joseph’s eyebrows went up slightly as he set aside his work. “Give me the card and the box”

Lucas handed over the greeting card, discreetly observing Joseph’s reaction. Having already glimpsed the card’s contents, Lucas struggled to fully grasp its meaning as he was a single man. He found it too cheesy!

When Joseph opened the heart-shaped card, he found one sentence written on it: [My feelings you are like a body that can't be separated from clothes. I can't be separated from you.]

for

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Score 9.5

Chapter 353 Joseph Would Think She Had Lost Her Mind

Joseph's gaze descended, fixating on the words written on the card. The impeccable handwriting reassured him that it was not Chloe who had written the card. He then proceeded to unbox the gift, revealing a suit that barely met the standards of a proper fit. While it was not a luxurious item, there was an unexplainable charm about it that caught his eye.

Joseph's towering height of 1.86 meters bestowed upon him a commanding presence, allowing him to effortlessly carry any garment with grace and charm. Each button on his white shirt was fastened and the shirt's hem was neatly tucked into his trousers. His well-defined waistline emphasized his strong physique, adding to the magnetic appeal of his poised and enigmatic demeanor.

The combination of his imposing stature, meticulous grooming, and confident demeanor captivated all those who beheld him.

Lucas grinned. "It seems that Ms. Chloe still holds you in her heart."

Perhaps she regretted her actions, wanting to reconcile but unable to swallow her pride. She hoped that by giving him this gift, Joseph would change his mind.

Joseph casually rolled up his sleeves to reveal his forearms, his eyes narrowing ever so slightly, his emotions were unreadable. He scoffed, thinking, 'Does that foolish girl truly hold any feelings for me? She's just weighing her options because she knows that I'm far better.

than Icarus."

Nevertheless, Joseph still felt a sense of satisfaction. However, this contentment was short-lived as an unexplainable surge of anger washed over him. Memories of Chloe once giving Icarus a suit resurfaced, and now she was trying to use the same tactic to deceive him. She wanted both him and Icarus. Such people were skilled in feigning deep affection, yet they were inherently promiscuous. In Chloe's case, her heart belonged only to herself.

Lucas also sensed that something was amiss and cautiously asked, "Sir, do you intend to wear this suit? Shall I have it cleaned for you?"

Joseph had a cleanliness obsession. No matter how spotless the clothes appeared, they always had to be cleaned before he would wear them.

"When have I ever worn such cheap junk?"

As Joseph's gaze swept coldly over the suit, it sent a chill down Lucas's spine. He nodded in agreement and said, "Okay, then I'll dispose of it for you.

"

Joseph's eyes grew even colder as he replied, "Did I say to throw it away?"

Lucas, feeling wronged and unable to comprehend his employer's thoughts, could only exit the room. After a while, as the time for the video conference approached, he went to remind Joseph and discovered that he still had on the clothes Chloe had gifted him.

'Who said he wouldn't wear such cheap junk...'

Chloe distributed the gifts she bought to her employees and spent the entire afternoon in her office going through documents. It was only at the end of the workday that she finally had a moment to check the time.

It was approximately three o'clock when a message arrived from the salesperson at the boutique, informing her that both the garments and the bank card had been delivered to the reception desk at Fairlight. Along with the message, a photograph was included, capturing the moment the gift box was received, with the pink greeting card boldly displayed atop the box.

A

surge of unease washed over her, prompting her to ask, “What did you write in the greeting card?”

As the evening settled in and Chloe returned home, having finished her meal and seeking solace on her plush bed, she received a response from the salesperson. As her eyes scanned the words, a chill coursed through her, leaving a trail of goosebumps in its wake.

“What? What the hell is wrong with this salesperson? A simple greeting would have sufficed. What’s this line about ‘My feelings for you are like a body that can’t be separated from clothes, I can’t be separated from you?!’”

It was fine if Joseph did not read the message, but if he did, he would surely think she had lost her mind.

Chloe promptly blocked the salesperson’s number and vowed never to buy clothes from that store ever again.

The clock struck 11 PM.

Joseph, tuckered out by back-to-back meetings, made his way into his house. His footsteps echoed faintly through the stillness. When Xavia heard the noise, she emerged from the kitchen, her eyes filled with concern as they met his fatigued countenance.

“I prepared some butternut squash velvet soup for you,” she offered gently, her voice carrying a tinge of worry. “Take a few sips. It’ll ease the weariness from your body and mind.”

Joseph threw her a sideways glance, his brows furrowing. “You should stay at Golden Wood. Stop coming to my place.”

Xavia’s view of Joseph’s attire was hindered by the dimly lit foyer. It was only when he approached her that she could discern the clothing he was wearing. It happened to be the suit Chloe had purchased earlier in the afternoon. A profound sense of melancholy engulfed Xavia, leaving faint traces of sorrow etched upon her face.

Without uttering a word, she silently placed a bowl of soup on the table. When Joseph emerged

from the shower in a robe, his lips formed a tight line and his gaze was distant and icy, unmistakably conveying his reluctance to engage in any conversation.

Xavia dug her fingers into the rim of the porcelain bowl and set the soup before him. After a prolonged silence, it seemed as though she had finally made up her mind. She said, "Joe, if you are unwilling to take responsibility for our child, just let me know. I'm prepared to undergo an abortion or raise the child on my own. As you know, I'm not one to revel in ambiguous entanglements."

Chapter 354 She Bought Me These Clothes to Spite You?

Joseph delicately towel-dried his hair and spoke with an air of indifference, "Can't you wait for four months?"

"It's not a matter of whether I can wait or not. It's that you don't trust me and don't want to be with me."

"If it's my child, I'll take responsibility."

"I agree, and I'm willing to do the amniocentesis. But after knowing each other for so many years, am I really so unworthy of your trust?!" Xavia's voice trembled as she spoke, her eyes glistening with unshed tears. She fought against their release, determined to keep them at bay.

Joseph remained unmoved, his piercing gaze fixed upon her. "Did you sleep with Gabe?"

Xavia's scalp tingled as she froze. She had guessed correctly. Gabriel must have told Joseph the truth!

"Yes, I had a one-time encounter with him. But it happened before I met you. Can you say with one hundred percent certainty that you've never made any mistakes in your life?"

Confronted with her accusations, Joseph remained calm and composed. "Since it wasn't your first time, where did those bloodstains on the bed come from that night?"

Every fiber of Xavia's being tensed up, refusing to relax even for a moment. She understood the gravity of this question. She had to provide an impeccable answer.

"I was born in a rural area and entered an art academy at the age of 18. In order to improve myself and enter high society, I admit that I've made many mistakes. But I had no choice. I needed to survive. You know, back when I had no fame, the only way for me to earn money was by performing at restaurants! Later, I worked hard to get to where I am today and become a true violinist.

"After getting with you, I felt inferior and was afraid to tell you the truth. I made a foolish decision and underwent hymen restoration surgery.

"Five years ago, I had to leave you because of an illness, and now, after five years, we're reunited and expecting a child. I don't want to miss this opportunity with you." Xavia sobbed, tears streaming down her face. She tightly grasped Joseph's hand and continued, "And what about you? Have you completely lost all feelings for me? Have you forgotten our early days of struggle and building our careers together?"

Joseph lowered his gaze, his eyes falling upon her face as he slowly withdrew his hand. "I haven't forgotten. I'm grateful for your companionship, but I despise deceit," he said with a measured tone.

"I'm aware of my mistake now. Can't you give me a chance? I understand that your grandpa

doesn't like me. Whether I can become your wife or not doesn't matter to me. But I don't want my child to grow up without a father from the moment of birth!" Xavia said, emphasizing the

word "child."

Joseph's face sank. The child was innocent.

"I won't abandon my child. But if I find out that you're deceiving me in some way," Joseph said, his jaw tightly set as he glanced at Xavia coldly. "You'll know the consequences."

In other words, he would only accept the child.

Xavia feigned ignorance and said, “Joe, thank you for being willing to accept me. It’s getting late, and I won’t disturb your rest. By the way, is the outfit you’re wearing today the one Ms. Chloe bought? I happened to run into her this afternoon.”

He frowned. “You met this afternoon?”

“Yes, Ms. Chloe even intentionally tried to provoke me, saying she’d buy you a suit as a gift. I didn’t expect her to actually do it.” Xavia sighed softly. “It’s partly my fault. If I hadn’t come back, none of this would’ve happened...”

”

Joseph’s handsome face grew cold. “She bought me these clothes just to spite you?”

“Yes, that’s right. She even said that no matter how cheap the clothes were, as long as she gave them to you, you’d definitely wear them,” Xavia said in a serious manner, “I personally think there’s no need to wear cheap clothes. They can cause skin allergies.”

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Score 9.5

Chapter 355 Getting Together With Icarus

After Xavia’s departure, Joseph remained rooted in place, his arms tensed and veins pulsating with anger. A bitter self-mockery tainted his enraged expression. He came to the realization that Chloe had not been attempting to balance her affections between him and Icarus. Instead, she merely treated him as a pawn in her game, relishing in her triumph and flaunting it before others.

With a determined grip, Joseph retrieved the suit hanging in his wardrobe. As frustration surged within him, he forcefully hurled the suit into the trash bin.

Meanwhile, autumn arrived, and Chloe wrapped herself in thicker garments.

Ever since completing her university studies, Chloe had been immersed in the demands of her work, leaving her with little time to obtain a driver’s license.

After assuming control of her family's business, she recognized the inconveniences of relying on taxis for transportation. Determined to overcome this hurdle, she seized a moment of respite and enrolled in a driving school before heading to the office.

Somehow, the moment Chloe set foot in the company, she was greeted by an employee who presented her with a rose. In a dazed state, she accepted the flower, only to receive another shortly after, followed by a third... Each time, only a single rose was handed to her, and the givers would silently depart without uttering a word.

Arriving at her office, Chloe found her hands overflowing with roses.

At that very moment, Icarus appeared. Since his leg injury was still in the process of healing, he leaned on a crutch as he emerged. His countenance exuded a handsome and refined charm, adorned with a gentle smile that diverted attention away from his leg.

Chloe was taken aback. "Aren't you supposed to be in the hospital? Why are you here?"

"I returned home this afternoon," Icarus said as he pulled a whole bouquet of pink roses from behind his back and presented it to her, his eyes filled with affection. "Chloe, I want to make a formal confession to you. Will

you be

my girlfriend?"

The employees erupted in applause, their voices echoing with enthusiasm. "Say yes! Say yes!"

The deafening sound made Chloe furrow her brows. She looked at the man who had sacrificed so much for her and nodded with a smile that did not quite reach her eyes. "Okay," she said.

Having made the decision to give herself a chance, she felt compelled to accept Icarus' proposal. Perhaps, through a different way of being together, she might develop feelings for him.

"This is wonderful, Chloe! We're finally together!" Icarus exclaimed, joyfully embracing

Chloe.

Chloe instinctively wanted to push him away, but considering the multitude of people around them, she did not want to embarrass him, so she accepted his embrace.

Icarus personally put on an expensive bracelet that had a small bell that tinkled with every movement on her wrist. Chloe looked at the bracelet and smiled faintly.

The employees captured the confession process between Icarus and Chloe on video, and after editing it, they proudly sent it to her. Chloe forced a smile and offered a few compliments.

At three o'clock in the afternoon, Emily sent her a video link: [What's going on? Are you together with Icarus?]

Chloe was taken aback and clicked on the video to view it. As expected, the video had been posted to Facebook, and Icarus had even enthusiastically shared it, flaunting their affection. She felt a surge of embarrassment and found herself at a loss for words. She did not like having her personal life exposed to the public eye.

Just five minutes later, she received a phone call from Noah.

"Chloe, are you....in a relationship?" he asked.

"Yeah..."

"I'm not trying to stop you from dating, but I just feel-"

"I understand what you mean. I'll delete the video as soon as possible and make sure it doesn't have any negative impact on Exotic Star," Chloe interjected, offering a sincere explanation.

Noah paused for a moment, swallowing his unsaid words, and gently comforted her, "I'm not blaming you. Of course, deleting the video would be the best outcome. You just separated from Joseph, so there's no need to rush into a new relationship. Even if this person treats you well, you should take some time to assess him."

Chloe blinked, sensing Noah was trying to tell her something.

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Chapter 356 Employee

Upon reconsideration, Chloe realized that Noah did not even know Icarus, so she believed she was overthinking the situation. Expressing gratitude for his concern, she ended the call and immediately tried to reach out to the employee who had posted the video.

Unfortunately, the employee was currently out on business and unable to answer the phone.

Noah returned to school and settled into the classroom. His neatly styled, chestnut brown hair partially obscured his eyebrows, unveiling a pair of innocent and captivating eyes. Leisurely tapping his fingertips on the phone screen, he switched to his Facebook account, located Icarus' profile, and opened the confession video. In the comments section, he tagged Fairlight's official account.

Toward the end of the workday, the employee who had posted the video returned. Apologizing to Chloe, he promptly deleted the video while explaining, "Ms. Chloe, I forgot that you had an endorsement deal with Exotic Star."

"It's fine." Chloe waved her hand helplessly. "You should go home now."

The video had already been shared, and there was no point in saying anything further. Icarus and Chloe had planned to have a meal together in the hospital cafeteria today. Since she had not visited him for two days, she agreed to meet him after work. With his leg injury, he was confined to the hospital and could not go anywhere else.

As Chloe organized the materials for her copywriting, she stretched her body. Just as she was about to finish work, she received a call from Icarus.

"Chloe, you don't have to come later."

"Why? What's wrong?"

“There’s some trouble at my workplace, and I need some time to handle it.”

Chloe’s heart sank as she pondered something. Her voice turned stern as she asked, “Is it Joseph?”

Icarus remained silent for a few seconds. “Don’t worry, I’ll take care of it.”

By not denying it, he practically admitted it. Chloe sat in her office, lost in thought. After a long while, she sent a text message to Joseph.

[What do you want from me?]

There was a reason behind his actions, and the only person he targeted was her.

[Come to Fairlight].

Joseph replied almost instantly.

Chloe, filled with anger, chuckled and replied: [Coward!]

[It’s fine if you don’t come. I won’t hesitate to acquire Icarus’ company by force tomorrow.]

Chloe took a deep breath, remained seated for five minutes, then went out and hailed a taxi to Fairlight. Along the way, she took out her phone and browsed through the net. Although the video had been deleted, many netizens had saved and shamelessly reposted it. Perhaps it was the halo of being Exotic Star’s ambassador, her popularity was on the verge of surpassing that of the current hottest celebrities..

Chloe smiled bitterly at her first experience of what troubles were brought about by being at celebrity. She now understood why so many celebrities were driven crazy by intrusive paparazzi and crazy fans.

At nine o’clock in the evening, Fairlight’s office was still buzzing with employees working overtime. Chloe took the elevator to the top floor. As the doors slid open, a powerful force yanked her out, propelling her into instant chaos.

Before she could react, an intense and overpowering kiss seized her, leaving her breathless. and stunned. She resisted with all her strength, lifting her knee to strike the person in his nether regions.

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Chapter 357 Joseph Is Angry

Joseph abruptly stopped in his tracks when he heard the ringing of a bell. He reached for Chloe's wrist, forcefully tearing off her bracelet. Precious gems and beads scattered across the floor, and his polished shoes inadvertently crushed one nearby. His gaze turned cold and filled with disdain as he remarked, "What a tasteless accessory. It's absolutely hideous."

Blushing with a mix of anger and embarrassment, Chloe spoke out, her voice trembling, "Why won't you leave Icarus alone? He didn't provoke you. If you're displeased with me, you can just come at me directly!"

Joseph brushed his fingertips against her swollen lip. His voice was husky and magnetic. "It's simple really. I'll spare him once you break up with him."

Even if they had divorced, he would not allow any other man to touch the women he had once been intimate with. It disgusted him.

"You have no right to interfere in my life!"

Joseph released his grip on Chloe, mocking her with a slight curl of his lips. "Well, then you can leave."

Chloe's eyes flickered with determination. Walking away would not solve anything. She adjusted her disheveled bangs and caught sight of surveillance cameras in the hallway. Her face tensed

up, and she gestured toward the office. "Can we talk inside?"

Joseph observed her cautious demeanor but remained unfazed.

'Becoming a brand ambassador has heightened her sense of privacy, hasn't it?'

In reality, there were only two people on this floor-him and Lucas-and the surveillance cameras had long been turned off. However, he had no intention of revealing that to her.

Chloe hesitated for a moment and tentatively reached out to grab Joseph's shirt hem, slowing her tone and speaking gently, "I believe we can sit down and have a calm discussion. Whatever grievances you hold and whatever resentments I have, let's lay them all out. Can we do that?"

Joseph could see through her little scheme, but he reluctantly agreed to her softened approach. As he expected, as soon as they returned to the office, Chloe immediately let go of her grip.

With a disdainful chuckle, Joseph reclined lazily on the sofa, exuding an air of superiority." Say what you want to say," he commanded.

"Can you please stop disrupting Icarus' career? He's innocent," Chloe pleaded.

Small and medium-sized companies were particularly susceptible to setbacks, often facing the looming threat of bankruptcy after a few blows.

"Is this the attitude you adopt when seeking someone's help?" Joseph scoffed.

Chloe nervously bit her lip. "Then what do you want me to do?"

"Last time, you begged me for Icarus' sake. I don't need to instruct you on what to do this time, do I?" Joseph's words dripped with a mixture of condescension and amusement.

Chloe was stunned, her teeth clenched tightly as she said, "No way. If you want a woman, go ask Nathan. I'm not a commodity for sale!"

'Why does he always expect me to pay him with my body? Is he intentionally trying to humiliate me? Was his previous facade of dignity and restraint merely a cover-up for his real self?'

Upon hearing this, Joseph narrowed his eyes and grinned. He preferred her refusal over her compliance. After all, he did not want to see her compromise herself for the sake of Icarus.

"Come here." Joseph beckoned with a crooked finger, a hint of amusement playing on his cold, and inscrutable face.

Chloe could not decipher his intentions and hesitated and stood rooted to her spot.

Supporting his forehead with one hand, Joseph reassured, "I won't force you to do anything."

This time, Chloe hesitated for a moment before finally walking over to him. Seizing the opportunity, Joseph embraced her waist and pulled her onto his lap.

Chloe lost her balance, and instinctively, wrapped her arms around Joseph's neck. Just as she settled, her phone in her bag started ringing-it was Icarus calling. She could not help but feel guilty, wanting to push Joseph away.

Expressionless, Joseph commanded, "Reject the call."

Chloe knew she should reject the call, but instead of doing that, she thought it would be better to simply turn off her phone. If she claimed her battery had died, it would suffice as an explanation if Icarus asked any questions. In this kind of situation, she could not guarantee that the man beside her would not say something inappropriate.

Just as her fingertips were about to touch the screen of her phone, Joseph suddenly kissed her lips, tightly intertwining them, leaving her no chance to speak.

This kiss was even more intense than the previous one, and Chloe's intuition told her that Joseph was angry.

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Chapter 358 Her Face Flushed Red

She could sense that he had been suppressing this anger for a long time. Was it because she was with Icarus?

She had no idea how long the kiss lasted, and whenever she tried to struggle, Joseph would bite her hard. Fearful of the pain, she remained motionless, her clear eyes turning red, resembling a rabbit that dared to be angry but not speak, allowing him to take what he wanted.

After what seemed like an eternity, Joseph finally released Chloe from his grasp. However, he left only her lips, his hands still tightly gripping her waist. She took deep breaths, her lips numb and sore. Without even looking, she knew they were swollen.

Joseph played with a strand of Chloe's hair, his voice low and haunting as he said, "I'll say it one last time. Break up with Icarus or it won't be as simple as him going bankrupt next time. After all, Icarus is the only son of his family."

He looked down on Icarus and did not think he deserved his woman though he and Chloe had already broken up. In addition to that, he held disdain for Icarus' attempt to manipulate Chloe

through guilt.

A chill ran down Chloe's spine. "If you dare to do such a thing, I'll report you to the police!"

"Do as you wish." Joseph paused, then his voice filled with a sneer. "On the day of the car accident, the vehicle that caused the crash wasn't a tanker truck at all. Both of you fell into a coma simultaneously, and Icarus didn't risk his life to save you."

Chloe's eyes widened, unable to comprehend how he knew such details. Nevertheless, she shook her head with determination. "I don't believe Icarus would lie to me."

He had helped her secure a job, provided resources to her family's company, and saved her even at the risk of disfigurement. Since they met, Icarus had never acted against her interests. He was like a caring older brother, always kind and trustworthy. He would never lie to her.

Joseph's face sank. 'So she believes in Icarus instead of me? Very well then.'

Noticing the shift in his expression, Chloe grew anxious, fearing his loss of control. She swiftly changed her words and said, "I'll look into this and uncover the truth. We'll rely on

evidence to determine if it's true or false."

The road where the accident occurred was a main thoroughfare, making it easily traceable.

Joseph's expression softened slightly, oblivious to the profound influence Chloe's every word and action had on his emotions. He willingly surrendered to this unexpected connection, reveling in the liberation it brought.

A spark of inspiration ignited within Chloe's mind, and a glimmer appeared in her eyes. "I can end things with Icarus, but in return, you have to spare Icarus' company for now while I

1/2

investigate and uncover the truth."

Realizing the importance of dealing with the immediate matter at hand, Chloe decided to prioritize it and leave the remaining details for later consideration. She could not let this chance go to waste, having already lost her advantage.

"How about this? Spend the night with me," Joseph suggested.

"No," Chloe replied, unwilling to be in his company for an entire night.

"No?" he questioned.

Her eyelashes trembled slightly, and she lowered her gaze. "Yes. My answer is no."

Joseph suppressed a smile, his pitch-black eyes fixated on Chloe as if a hidden beast lurked

within the darkness. "Very well, then there's an alternative," he said.

"What is it?" Chloe asked.

Jojo and Coco's Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Score 9.5

Chapter 359 My Father Took His Own Life

As the rain began to fall outside, dark clouds obscured the moon.

Chloe was standing by the roadside without an umbrella, waiting for a ride-hailing car.

Five minutes later, Joseph emerged from the underground parking lot. He rolled down the car window halfway to reveal his noble face. "Get in. It's going to be a stormy night, and you won't be able to get a cab."

As Chloe glanced at the ride-hailing order on her phone, she realized that despite the higher price, no driver had accepted it. With the rain intensifying, she knew that finding a ride would become even more challenging. Without hesitation, she decided to get into his car and informed him of her destination.

Having been to Chloe's house twice before, Joseph remembered the route and had no need to rely on navigation. For a while, neither of them spoke as Chloe looked outside. The rain soon intensified, and large drops of water splattered against the car window, obscuring their view.

Chloe turned her gaze away, gathering the courage to ask the lingering questions in her mind. "Why did you agree to Grandpa's three-month deadline?"

With his temperament, Harold should not have been able to manipulate him so easily.

Joseph's profile had smooth lines as he replied in a subdued tone, "There's no longer a three-month deadline."

"I know, but I want to understand the reason behind your agreement," Chloe said, her eyes filled with eager anticipation. Her curiosity could not be suppressed, and she longed to know how Harold had convinced him.

Joseph remained silent for a while, appearing unwilling to answer. Chloe pursed her lips and decided not to push further.

"My father's suicide note is in my grandfather's possession," he suddenly said, his voice as calm as stagnant water.

Chloe was taken aback, falling into silence. During her first visit to Joseph's family home, she sensed something peculiar about his family when she first saw Harold. However, she never expected that his father had ended his life in such a tragic manner.

They were born into a prestigious family and were ahead of the majority of people in the world. Joseph's father would have been the rightful successor to the Whitmans' power if he had not died. Harold appeared kind-hearted, and

although the rest of the Whitmans were not particularly likable, they still managed to get along.

Aside from that, Joseph's father had him as an outstanding son. With elders and children to care for, what could have pushed him to abandon his family and become so desperate as to

12

take his own life?

Chloe's heart clenched, and the light in her eyes dimmed as she felt a pang of sympathy for Joseph. She could empathize with the feeling of not having parents-the lack of belonging, always alone. Even if she were to die the next second, no one would know.

Poverty was not simply having no money. It was the absence of love and care.

Soon, they arrived at Chloe's house.

"Thank you," she uttered and stepped out of the car.

Returning to her bedroom, Chloe gazed out from the balcony, but Joseph's car had already

disappeared into the night. She sighed silently and sent a text to Icarus, claiming that her phone had run out of battery.

She tried to sleep, but sleep would not come to her. She tossed and turned in her bed, her mind wandering from thoughts about Joseph's family background to contemplating Joseph's future

with Xavia.

'I wonder what he's doing right now... He was probably fast asleep as his daily routine resembles that of an elderly person with a healthy and regular lifestyle.

'No, it's more likely that he's by Xavia's side, gently caressing her belly and envisioning their future with their child...'

Now, Chloe was undeniably an outsider. The realization left her feeling a sudden tightness in her chest. She had been foolish to dwell on such thoughts.

Jojo and Coco's Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Score 9.5

Chapter 360 Birthday Party

The next morning, Chloe started her day by preparing a hearty breakfast. The kitchen was filled with the enticing aroma of freshly brewed coffee and sizzling bacon. As she sat down to enjoy her breakfast, the combination of flavors and textures brought a sense of contentment to her taste buds.

She enjoyed her meal while reviewing her study materials. The questions for the driving test were relatively straightforward, requiring a strong grasp of theory rather than practical application. By nine o'clock, she arrived at her office.

In the lobby on the ground floor, a middle-aged man in his fifties looked around anxiously, clearly waiting for someone. As Chloe approached, she could not help but express her surprise. "Patrick?"

Patrick turned around and smiled. "Ms. Chloe, I happened to be passing by and thought I'd drop in."

Chloe did not buy his explanation as she was familiar with Patrick's way. She playfully teased, "Just dropping in, huh?"

"Ms. Chloe, you're quite sharp. Nothing gets past you," Patrick said, pulling out an invitation card and handing it to her. "Mr. Harold's birthday party is tonight. He's been talking about you for several days. He hopes that you can attend the celebration."

Chloe did not reach out to take the invitation card. "I've already divorced Joseph. It wouldn't be appropriate for me to attend such an event, especially since he might bring Xavia..."

"Don't worry, Mr. Joseph is away on a business trip today. He won't be going, and the people invited by Mr. Harold are his comrades. They won't pry into the affairs of the younger generation," Patrick assured her.

“But-”

Patrick interrupted her and forcefully handed her the invitation. There was a tinge of sadness in his voice as he said, “Stop with the ‘buts.’ No one would dare to bully you, and if anyone does, Mr. Harold would surely not let them off. Besides, you know the state of his health. After this year’s birthday, who knows if he’ll be able to celebrate next year...”

“Are you sure Joseph and Xavia won’t be going?” Chloe asked.

Patrick chuckled, his smile warm. “I’m telling the truth, my dear. I’m getting old, but I wouldn’t lie to you.

“All right,” Chloe said, “I’ll go tonight. Do you know what Grandpa likes, Patrick? I want to buy him a gift.”

“As long as it’s from you, Mr. Harold will like anything,” Patrick replied.

Chloe’s eyebrows went into a playful arch and said, “I’m that important, huh?”

“Yes, that’s why you must come,” Patrick insisted.

“Okay.”

Patrick was not lying. Joseph was indeed away on a business trip today, and it would take an afternoon to travel from Aesper to Docwood. As long as the weather did not take a turn for the worse, he would make it back in time.

In Joseph’s house, Xavia approached him and took the initiative to greet him. She distributed prepared pet treats to Toto and Oreo, then presented a beautifully crafted painting to Joseph.

“Joe, I recall that today is your grandfather’s birthday. Can you help take this gift to him? He seems to be fond of this painter,” Xavia said.

Joseph glanced at the painting and replied nonchalantly, “He won’t like it.”

“Why?” Xavia asked, feeling a sense of grievance. She cautiously asked, “Do you think the gift I chose isn’t presentable? You don’t have to mention that it’s from me, just take it for me. I want to make Grandpa happy.”

“He dislikes this painter because of his unpatriotic actions. He now enjoys playing chess,” Joseph replied.

Embarrassment flashed across Xavia's face. "I'm sorry. I should've checked..."

"After feeding the dogs, go to the hospital for your prenatal check-up. I need to go to the office," he said. With that, he went upstairs to change his clothes, leaving her with a cold and distant back view.

Xavia clenched her fists and kicked Oreo, causing it to yelp in pain. Its dark eyes filled with fear as it timidly approached her with its ears flattened, trying to appease her. But once again, she kicked the dog away with a swift kick.

Oreo cowered and tucked its tail between its legs, losing all courage to enjoy the treats in its bowl. The dog curled up in a corner, resembling a remorseful child and evoking a sense of pity.

Jojo and Coco's Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Score 9.5