

Jojo and Coco's Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Chapter 31

Chapter 31 Jake's Aunt

"Take that card I gave you earlier as your salary."

Chloe stared in disbelief at the document lying on the table, her mind blank. Then, a smile slowly spread across her face, revealing a row of straight pearly whites.

"Thanks a bunch, Jojo," she said.

'Now I can finally use your card without scruples!!

She suspected that he was concerned that she might be reluctant to spend his money and thus had arranged a job for her.

'Looks like he can be pretty sweet and considerate at times.'

Joseph's eyebrows went up slightly, and the indifference on his face melted a little as he chuckled. "If you want to thank me, just stop making terrible food."

"I'll enroll in a cooking class!" she said.

'But with your money!'

Chloe struggled with the documents Joseph had given her due to all the financial jargon written on them. After translating two pages, she leaned against the table and closed her

eyes, intending to take a quick break, but ended up drifting off to sleep. 1

She was roused by a furry thing brushing against her face. Initially, she assumed it was her own hair, but she soon heard muffled giggles. Quickly lifting her head, she came

face-to-face with an adorable little face.

Chloe's eyes widened as she stared at the little face cautiously, "Who are you?"

“I’m Joseph’s cousin,” said Ginny Reyes as she scrutinized Chloe. “You’re his wife, right?”

‘Joseph’s cousin? Doesn’t this mean this little girl is Jake’s aunt?!’

Understanding dawned upon Chloe. She asked softly, “How old are you?”

“I’m five.”

“That means you’ll be a beautiful young lady in a few years.”

Ginny nodded, her bright eyes, and said softly, “Yeah! And when I’m all grown up, I’m

going to marry Joseph, so I can’t call you sister-in-law!”

“Oh, so you have a crush on Joseph?” Chloe blinked. “But you can’t marry him because he’s your family.”

Upon hearing this, Ginny pursed her lips and tears filled her eyes.

Chloe’s forehead twitched, and she quickly tried to console the little girl, “Don’t cry. I was just teasing you.”

Ginny looked at her, her eyes brimming with tears as she asked, “So can I marry Joseph in the future? Wahh!!!!

“Well, you can, but...”

“But what?”

“But there are many men in the world who are better than your cousin. By the time you grow up, Joseph will already be a forty-year-old man.”

“Wahh! Joseph won’t get old! You’re lying! Wahhh!”

The corner of Chloe’s lips twitched. Concerned that the commotion would draw the attention of the adults, she watched helplessly as the little girl’s crying got louder and louder.

She eventually relented and said, “All right, all right. Joseph won’t grow old. When you’re grown up, you can marry him if you want. But you have to promise me that you won’t cry anymore. Joseph doesn’t like girls who cry.”

“What kind of girl does Joseph like then?” Ginny anxiously wiped away her tears and stopped crying.

Chloe pointed to herself with a serious expression and replied, “Of course, he likes someone pretty and mature, just like me.”

Ginny gazed at Chloe with a serious expression, chewing on her fingernail. She seemed to agree with the idea that Chloe was pretty, and she nodded in agreement. “I want to be as pretty as you.’

Chloe touched her chin with her delicate, white fingers and said, “Then you have to call me Aunt Coco!”

After hesitating for a second, Ginny called her out in a sweet voice, “Okay, Aunt Coco!”

Chloe was speechless.

Clearly, nothing was more important than becoming beautiful. Not even Joseph

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Chapter 32 I’ve Met You Somewhere

Half an hour later, Chloe appeared in front of everyone holding Ginny’s hand.

Joseph’s eyes flickered with surprise. Ginny was a sheltered child. Despite not being mischievous, she was timid, especially around unfamiliar people. It seemed to him that Chloe possessed some commendable traits.

At the very least, she knew her way around kids.

Ginny went around the crowd, showing off to everyone her new hairstyle. It had been tied up in a pair of symmetrical buns, each on one side of her head. It accentuated her adorable features, making her look like a little fairy.

“This hairstyle looks good on you, Ginny. It’s good to know that my granddaughter-in-law is good with her hands,” Harold praised generously.

“That’s right. Her hands are like magic.”

“Someone who is usually good with their hands probably cooks very well too.”

“You’re so fortunate to have a wife like her, Joseph.”

All of the people nodded and agreed with Harold.

Blushing and smiling shyly, Chloe took a seat next to Joseph and assumed the role of a good wife.

While at the dinner table, Joseph raised his glass to make a toast with the others. He proceeded to drink several glasses of white wine in succession and began feeling uneasy in his stomach. As he got up to pour himself some water, someone approached him and offered a straw to his lips.

He turned his head and saw Chloe holding a bottle of yogurt in her hand. She looked at him fixedly and said, “Drink some yogurt. It’ll help hydrate you.”

Bright lights filled the room, while a faint scent tickled Joseph’s nostrils. He gazed at her deeply, and his tightly set jaw relaxed at this moment.

Chloe did not know what was going on in his mind. As she lifted the yogurt, she accidentally touched his lips with her fingers. Startled, she quickly moved away and whispered, “Drink.”

Joseph twirled his finger and lowered his head slightly to take a few sips of yogurt from the straw she handed him.

After the party ended, Chloe thought they would spend the night at the ancestral home together, but they had to leave as Joseph had been called in to come to work early the next day.

Chloe stayed alone in the villa that night. The next morning, she woke up early and finished translating a few pages of the documents. While searching for jobs online, she also looked for cooking classes nearby. After finding one, she inquired about it, and the other party called her back that afternoon.

“Hello, Ms. Chloe. We have a trial class this afternoon. If you’re interested, I can reserve a spot for you.”

Since the place had positive reviews on the Internet and she had finished her tasks on hand, Chloe agreed to attend the class.

She reached her destination shortly after, but the culinary school was nestled in a labyrinthine neighborhood, almost causing her to lose her way. Just as

she was about to give up, a clear, refined male voice sounded behind her, "Are you looking for Sander Culinary School too?"

Turning around, she saw a towering, handsome man with well-defined features wearing a pair of gold-rimmed glasses. He exuded a mature, regal aura and appeared to be in his early thirties. Something flickered through her mind the moment she saw the man, but she could not quite catch it. Yet, one thing was certain-she had seen this man before.

Chloe collected her thoughts and replied, "Yeah."

Icarus Baker smiled faintly and said, "Their place is really hard to find. Let me make a

call and ask the staff for directions."

He took out his phone and went to the side to make the call. Having no other option, Chloe had to wait for him to finish the call and find the right way.

The staff was very helpful. Upon learning that they were lost, they immediately offered to come and pick them up.

Chloe stood waiting in silence since she did not know Icarus, maintaining a dignified and elegant demeanor.

"I have a feeling that I've met you somewhere," Icarus said, his face displaying a slight perplexity as he struggled to recall where he had seen her before.

She was startled and felt somewhat incredulous. "To be honest, I get the same feeling."

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Chapter 34 That Nutjob of a Moron Is Your Nephew

When Joseph came back from work, he found Chloe in the kitchen, chopping potatoes with a knife. She looked as if she had a deep grudge against the potatoes, for she was smashing instead of chopping them.

"Who upset you?"

Chloe paused and turned around to look at him, knife in hand.

“A moron,” she said begrudgingly.

‘Yes, a moron. And that nutjob of a moron is your nephew!’

After a look of confusion, Joseph went upstairs to clean up.

For dinner tonight, they had beef potato stew, oven-roasted vegetables, and Greek salad.

“I took a crash course on cooking today. Want to try the result of my learning?” Chloe asked.

Joseph took a bite of the beef and said, “Well, there isn’t much difference from the previous days.”

“Today’s only the first day, okay?” Chloe replied. “Give me a month and I’ll surprise you.”

“We’ll see,” Joseph said.

Although he said the food was not great, he enjoyed the meal very much.

Chloe retired to her room to continue her work after dinner. Shortly after, Emily called and said that Jake had come to her house looking for Chloe.

“He’s still waiting outside my door. He’s going on about some heirloom bracelet that

gave you and claims that it must be at my place,” Emily said.

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Chloe narrowed her eyes and said, “Put him on the phone.”

“Chloe, I understand that you’re attached to the bracelet, but please, you have to return it to me. It’s a precious family heirloom that I had planned to give to my future wife,” Jake pleaded, as though he had exhausted all other options.

“That’s enough. Meet me at the coffee shop in the middle of Dixie Street in an hour and I’ll return the bracelet,” Chloe said firmly, “Stop bothering Em or I’ll report you for

trespassing on private property.”

Chloe was familiar with the family heirloom that Jake was referring to. During their time together, he had presented her with the bracelet with great enthusiasm. She had been over the moon, believing that she had gained not only Jake's approval but also that of his family.

However, all her illusions were shattered the day she caught him cheating on her. Consumed by her fury, she had discarded most of his belongings, including the bracelet. She could not recall if she had disposed of it or if it was still tucked away in her jewelry box or if it was somewhere back in her room at the family home.

The last option seemed unlikely. Given Ava's personality, she probably already rummaged through Chloe's room in search of it. That was why Jake had contacted her.

As expected, Chloe found the bracelet in the jewelry box stuffed inside her suitcase. She did not feel like changing clothes. Jake was not worth the effort of her dressing up anyway. Without even bothering to change out of her pajamas, she lazily slipped on a coat and swung open the bedroom door, only to run into Joseph who was carrying a cup of water down the stairs.

"I'm going out for a bit. I'll be back soon, don't worry," she said sweetly, voluntarily reporting her plans to Joseph.

Chloe was wearing a plain nightgown, and her black hair cascaded down her shoulders like a waterfall. Her face had a healthy hint of pink, and her long legs were hidden by the nightgown, revealing only a pair of dainty, slippers. Her oversized coat covered her delicate figure, and her innocent-looking eyes and brows lent her an air of purity. She was not wearing any makeup, yet she appeared more stunning and captivating than if she had.

Joseph's gaze remained steady as he asked, "Where are you going?"

"I'm going to Dixie Street."

Since her relationship with Joseph was not yet stable, she could not let Jake know about them. Dixie Street was about two miles away, so it was unlikely for them to run into

each other.

Joseph glanced at the darkening sky outside and put down his cup on the table. "I'll take you there."

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Chapter 35 Joseph Is Jealous!

By the time Joseph came back with the car keys, Chloe's mind was still swimming.

"Hmm?" He raised his eyebrows. "What's the matter? Let's go."

Chloe fiddled with the buttons of her coat and demurely said, "Is it too much trouble for you to drive me this late at night?"

Despite not being emotionally prepared to confess to Jake yet, the idea of him seeing her with his uncle and losing his confidence was too big of a temptation to let go. Just the thought of that scene sent shivers of joy down her spine.

Unfortunately, Joseph misconstrued her intentions and his expression turned sour as he quipped, "Don't worry. I just happened to be heading back to the office and it's along the way. I won't be a hindrance to your secret meeting with your paramour."

"What paramour?" Chloe was taken aback, and it was not until a moment later that she realized the meaning behind his odd tone. She took a few steps closer, smiling slyly as she stared at him. "Are you jealous?"

Otherwise, why would he sound so sarcastic?

Joseph met her gaze and gave a dismissive smile. "Overconfidence is an illness. You better get it treated sooner rather than later."

He checked the watch on his wrist and strode downstairs in long strides. "If you're not leaving, I am."

"Of course, I'm coming! This is the first time you're driving me somewhere, Jojo." She trailed after him like a lively butterfly.

Joseph turned the steering wheel, but he could still see Chloe out of the corner of his eye. She sat in the passenger seat, earnestly looking ahead and occasionally pointing

out the way as if they were a husband and wife on a journey.

“Hey, stop! The right lane is on green light!” The urgent tone in Chloe’s voice brought Joseph back to reality. He looked toward the pedestrian crossing and quickly adjusted

the car’s course.

Chloe breathed a sigh of relief and muttered, “What’s wrong with you? I told you several times, but you still didn’t change directions.”

Regret flickered in Joseph’s eyes as he could not believe he had ever entertained the idea of spending the rest of his life with such a talkative woman. He must have been insane.

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Without pressing him for an explanation, Chloe simply pointed to a nearby cafe and said, “You can drop me off here.”

As she got out of the car, Joseph looked at the small bag in her hand and said, “I’ll probably be back in about an hour. If you can’t wait for me, just get a cab and go home first.”

“Are you really going to the office?” Chloe asked in surprise, her rosy lips parted slightly.

Could it be that she was just imagining things?

Well, she felt the likelihood of such a scenario was quite high. Having spent time in his presence, she had become adept at discerning his usual mannerisms—aloof,

unforgiving, and sardonic.

“Of course. Do you think I’d deliberately become your personal chauffeur just to drive you here?” Joseph replied with a sneer.

“Okay then.” Chloe smiled brightly, waving at him. “Bye-bye. Be careful on the road and remember to come back and pick me up. I’ll be waiting!”

“Okay.”

Joseph ran into Nathan who was just stepping out for a late-night snack when he arrived at Fairlight.

When Nathan saw Joseph coming out of his car, his eyes widened in shock as he asked, “What are you doing here so late at night?”

Joseph glanced at him and replied, “I came back to check on the bidding documents for

tomorrow.”

“Isn’t that something the staff can take care of?” Nathan wondered aloud, knowing Joseph would usually not bother with such a trivial matter.

“Well, Chloe had something to take care of, so I dropped her off and decided to make a stop here,” Joseph replied as he rubbed his temples. “Besides, those employees are all new. I want to make sure there are no mistakes.”

Nathan was puzzled but unsurprised. He could see that Joseph’s primary intention was to drop Chloe off at her destination and that the visit to the office was just a brief detour. She clearly occupied a special place in Joseph’s heart.

However, he did not expose Joseph. After the brief chat, he slipped away quietly.

Why did he not expose Joseph?

The reason was simple—he could not beat Joseph.

Chloe waited ten minutes at the coffee shop before Jake and Ava showed up. The moment Ava spotted her, she immediately started to act as if they were close sisters.

“Coco, how could you be so foolish? The second floor of our house is ten feet above the ground. You can’t just jump off because you disagree with Father’s rules.

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Chapter 36 What Was Once Precious Is Now Meaningless

It seemed that Ava was still proficient in twisting the truth.

“These are

Ignoring her sister, Chloe placed a bag on the table and said in a flat tone, all the jewelry and clothes you gave me. The dolls and such are at the Johnsons’.”

Ava grabbed Chloe’s hand and asked worriedly, “Where have you been staying the past few days?”

“Does it matter?”

“I asked Em and she said you haven’t been at her place.” Ava bit her lip, her voice thick with concern. “You should come. It’s not safe for a girl to stay outside alone.”

Jake knew a thing or two about Chloe’s involvement with an older man and a mixture of disdain and disappointment filled his heart. On one hand, he felt responsible for her downfall, but on the other, he felt she should not just give up on herself even though their relationship did not work out.

“Ava’s right. It’s not right for a girl to be alone. Go back home,” Jake chimed in and said in a preachy tone.

Chloe was speechless. “Is there something wrong with you guys?”

After all they had done, it was audacious of them to interfere in her personal affairs.

“How could you say such a thing? We’re just worried about you,” Jake scolded her.

“I didn’t ask for your concern.” Chloe blinked her innocent eyes, almost writing “Mind your own business” on her face.

Ava wanted to say something more, but Chloe did not give her the chance and interjected, “I’ve returned your things. Please don’t contact me again. Thank you.”

As soon as she finished speaking, she got up and left.

“Chloe, I’m so disappointed in you!” Jake’s angry voice came from behind her.

Ignoring him, Chloe calmly exited the cafe and aimlessly wandered around the vicinity, knowing Joseph would arrive soon. After walking for a while, she estimated that he would be back soon, so she turned back in the direction of the cafe.

As Chloe approached the cafe, she witnessed Ava and Jake discarding the bag that held the jewelry he had given her by the roadside. Ava even offered a tissue to Jake to wipe his hands with as though they had touched something dirty.

Initially, Chloe was unfazed, but as she saw the gifts that Jake had given her in the past being tossed away so nonchalantly, she felt as if their precious memories together had been ruthlessly abandoned. After all, those memories represented some of the happiest moments of her life.

Suddenly, indescribable anger and grievance surged through Chloe’s heart, overwhelming her and making it difficult for her to take even one step.

Meanwhile, Jake and Ava had already left in their car.

Chloe walked over to the scattered trinkets on the ground. There were rings, keychains, and the necklace that Jake had personally woven for her. She picked them up one by one, handling them with the utmost care, almost as if she was bidding them a heartfelt farewell.

From a black Rolls-Royce parked on the side of the road, Joseph sat inside and observed her intently. Nobody knew how long he had been there.

Despite feeling unhappy, Chloe did not forget her main goal to become Joseph’s real wife. She composed herself and looked around before fishing out her phone to call him.

“Jojo, are you done? When are you coming over?” she asked.

“I’m here,” he replied.

Chloe was taken aback. “What? Where?”

“Look across the street.”

Sitting in the passenger seat, Chloe looked at the man next to her with a puzzled

expression. “Jojo, was there some problem at work? You seem like you’re in a bad mood.

”

“Nope,” he replied.

“Then what’s wrong? If you have something that’s bothering you, you can let it out. Talking about it will make you feel better,” she said.

Joseph kept his gaze fixed on the road ahead, his eyelashes drooping slightly and casting a shadow over his eyes.

“What about you? Why don’t you talk about what’s bothering you?” he asked.

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Chapter 37 Goodnight

A little taken aback, Chloe asked, “You saw everything?”

However, Joseph answered in a non-committal tone, “What did I see?”

“The person I met at the cafe...”

‘That sc*mbag is your nephew!’

Joseph was silent for a while and said, “Nope. I didn’t see anything.”

He had only seen her standing on the street looking lost and dejected.

Chloe stared into Joseph’s eyes and realized that he was not lying. He really had not seen Jake or Ava, leaving her slightly disappointed.

Joseph thought she did not want to talk about the subject so he did not press any further. The journey home was silent. After Chloe wished him good night, she went to her room to sleep.

As Joseph watched her disappear up the stairs with a pensive expression on her face, he murmured, “Good night...”

Chloe, still seething in anger, did not notice what Joseph said and went straight into her room.

Upon coming downstairs the next day, a look of surprise spread across Joseph’s face when he saw a lunchbox out on the table. Chloe then emerged from the kitchen, her clean and pure face shining brightly in the morning sunlight.

“I made you breakfast. They’re some sandwiches and salad. You can have them while working,” she said.

Joseph had a habit of eating breakfast, and he much preferred to have the healthy food that Chloe made at home rather than buying from some cafe. It was not particularly delicious, but it was nutritious.

He grunted in acknowledgment, picked up the lunchbox, and headed out the door. It was half

past nine in the morning, and he was stuck in traffic for almost half an hour before he finally arrived at the office.

Joseph headed straight to the meeting room. The board of directors seated in the room looked at the pink lunchbox he placed on the table and exchanged confused looks. They all had the same question in their minds.

‘Did Mr. Joseph choose that cute lunchbox himself? Could his loving wife have prepared it for him?’

As Lucas entered the room with a pile of documents, he sensed the unusual atmosphere and followed everyone’s gaze to the lunchbox placed in front of Joseph. He quickly realized the situation and walked over to pick it up, placing it on the windowsill.

Who could be so foolish as to place their wife’s lunchbox in front of Joseph and cause everyone to mistakenly assume that he had a girlfriend? It was widely known that Joseph was a pristine golden bachelor!

Joseph looked up at Lucas, then his gaze shifted to the lunchbox on the windowsill. It was a suitable spot to place it since it would not obstruct the view of those in the back.

row.

Understanding dawned upon the board of directors as they realized that the lunchbox did not belong to Joseph, but to his assistant. When the meeting ended, Joseph was the last to leave. But before leaving, he did not forget to pick up the lunchbox that had been put aside.

Lucas witnessed this and his jaw dropped as if it had been dislocated. “M-Mr. Joseph, did you bring this?”

Joseph raised an eyebrow. “Yeah. What about it?”

After finishing her breakfast, Chloe began to focus on her own affairs. She had scheduled an interview for a translator position. Although this company was not her first choice, she did not have any other options at the moment. Fortunately, it was a

position at a large company.

Upon reviewing her resume, the interviewer took off her glasses and exclaimed, “You’re so young, and you’ve already passed the C2 exam?!”

“Yes,” Chloe responded with a smile.

“That’s a shame.”

“Why is that?”

“As you know, we’re a large corporation and positions here are limited. We’ve already filled all the translator positions.”

“Why did you call me for an interview?” Chloe furrowed her brows, unable to understand.

Was this just a ploy for this person to boost her performance?

“Please don’t be quick to judge. Although all the translator positions have been filled, we have other openings that you might be interested in. Would

you be willing to consider joining our sales team? The starting salary is 2,000 dollars and there's an 18% commission fee. Some of our top-performing employees in the sales department are making up to 8,000 dollars per month."

Chloe smiled sardonically and picked up her resume before walking out. "Thank you, but no thank you."

She was wrong. This woman was not just trying to boost her performance. She was also misleading applicants with false promises.

As Chloe left the company, she ran into Icarus. He was dressed in a formal suit and looked quite dignified. Offering him a polite smile, she greeted him, "Hey, what a coincidence seeing you here."

"It certainly is. It seems we're fated," Icarus replied as he glanced at the skyscraper behind her. "Do you work here?"

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Chapter 38 Chloe, You Sure Are Clear-Headed

"No, I was here for a job interview," replied Chloe.

"You had a job interview with the Baxons?"

"Yeah," Chloe confirmed.

"How did it go? Did it go smoothly?" Icarus inquired.

"No." Chloe shrugged as she sighed dejectedly. "It's difficult to find a job these days."

Icarus gestured toward her resume. "May I have a look?"

"Sure," she replied, handing it over.

After reading through her resume, Icarus remarked, "Objectively speaking, you are indeed outstanding among your peers."

"And subjectively?" asked Chloe as she fixed her gaze on Icarus.

"Subjectively, in my opinion, you're extraordinary," Icarus answered.

It was evident that she was an exceptional candidate, with a four-year streak of receiving scholarships during her time in university, attending internships at two major corporations during her sophomore year, and achieving excellent results on all her projects. Upon graduation, she even led her team in overseas business negotiations. Her frequent travel abroad could be the reason why she was able to obtain the Estrenian C2 certificate at such a young age.

However, Icarus could not help but wonder why she ended up staying in a small company instead of going to a large corporation with such impressive performance during her internships. He vaguely recalled hearing the name of this small company a few times from Jake, but at the time, he paid little attention to Jake.

Chloe smiled. "You're too kind. If I really were extraordinary, I wouldn't have trouble finding a job."

"Don't worry, I believe you'll find one soon."

Chloe was oblivious to the hidden meaning of his words and responded with a simple nod and a brief expression of gratitude. "Thank you for your kind words."

As he watched Chloe walk away, Icarus took out his phone and dialed an old friend's number.

"I'm at your office right now. You're half an hour late. I'll wait another ten minutes. If you aren't down here by then, I'm leaving," he said.

Five minutes later, a man of similar age to Icarus emerged from the Baxon's office, carrying a briefcase and complaining, "We're so busy this quarter. I have to hide in the bathroom if I want to slack off."

"Do you regret not starting your own business?" Icarus teased.

"Regret is useless. I have a wife and kids. The risk of starting a business at my age is too great," the man replied.

Icarus patted his shoulder and said, "Staying at Baxon isn't a bad choice. Didn't you get promoted recently? I'm sure you'll become one of the top executives in another ten years."

"You're right. Contentment brings happiness," the man agreed.

Icarus looked in the direction Chloe had left and smiled. "Is your department still looking for people? I just met a talented young woman with commendable skills."

For the next two days, Chloe spent her mornings translating documents Joseph had given her and her afternoons looking for a job. In the evenings, she would buy groceries

and cook.

On the third day, Joseph instructed her to pick Harold up, who had just returned from

out of town.

"Patrick will drive you there," Joseph said, "He might bring up the topic of meeting the parents and the gifts."

Chloe was taken aback. "What should I do? Should I find two actors to play my parents?"

She could not go home, nor could she accept Harold's gifts.

"You can accept the gifts," Joseph said nonchalantly, "Just consider it part of the contract fee."

Chloe shook her head profusely and firmly refused, "No! I don't want your money. Our relationship isn't measured by money!"

If she accepted the gift, it would be as if she was acknowledging their contract and would be unable to reverse her decision later. She aspired to be Jake's aunt for life. Furthermore, if she could win Joseph's affection, his wealth would be hers as well. Why should she allow the prospect of a trifling gain to obscure her true goal?

There was a moment of silence on the phone, then Joseph said meaningfully, "Chloe, you sure are clear-headed."

“Jojo, do you know why I’m clear-headed?” Chloe asked.

“Nope, and I’m not interested.”

“Can’t you just play along?”

“Fine, what’s the reason?”

“Because I really love you. I’m not here for your money,” she teased him,
“Aren’t you

touched?”

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Chapter 39 Toto

“Not one bit,” Joseph replied honestly.

If she was not coming for his money, it meant he did not have the ability to make her after it.

Chloe found herself at a loss for words.

‘How could he be so insensitive?’ she thought, ‘Any normal guy would be moved by such words, so why is his response so indifferent?’

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Chloe fixed her gaze upon the mirror, observing her reflection. She had been honing her cooking skills lately and her principles of minimizing waste had led her to consume everything she prepared, regardless of its flavor.

Consequently, she had gained some weight-particularly around her cheeks-and no longer appeared as slim as she used

Standing with her hands on her hips, Chloe declared, “I’ve made a decision. Starting today, I’m going to go jogging with you every morning! Be sure to wake me up!”

Joseph’s eyes narrowed, tinged with a hint of suspicion. “What scheme are you cooking up now?”

Chloe had been waking up around ten lately and had not made him breakfast in a while. The last time she had made it was the only time. And now, she was talking about going for morning runs? With her tendency to oversleep, she would probably only last three days.

Women were unpredictable. Thank goodness he had a reliable male assistant.

"I'm serious. I think I've put on weight, so I need to start losing it!" Chloe persisted.

'Otherwise, how am I going to win your heart?'

Joseph, not wanting to continue this conversation, said helplessly, "You're not fat. You don't have to lose weight."

"Really?" Chloe replied, her eyes lighting up with excitement. "You like curvy girls?"

"Uh-huh."

"Great, then I know what to do now!" Chloe exclaimed.

"What are you talking about?" he asked, confused.

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"You'll find out tonight!"

Chloe went upstairs to change, and Patrick arrived shortly after. She got into the car and went to the airport to wait for Harold. But instead of a man, a dog arrived instead.

An airport worker in uniform handed Patrick a black and white Border Collie and asked him to sign a form. Chloe bent down and curiously petted the dog's head. "Patrick, what's this?"

"This is Mr. Joseph's dog that he has been raising abroad. It was shipped back today. Its name is Toto," Patrick replied, "Mr. Harold's flight will be arriving soon."

Chloe was stunned and she stopped petting the dog. "Joseph has a dog?"

‘But he’s a clean freak, and Border Collies have long fur. Won’t the whole house be covered in dog fur during shedding season?’

“He does. Mr. Joseph raised Toto’s mother too,” Patrick replied.

“I see,” Chloe replied, shocked by the revelation.

Sensing that Chloe had stopped petting it, Toto barked discontentedly at her, urging her to continue. Chloe’s mouth twitched, and she reluctantly went back to petting it.

Just then, Harold stepped out of the terminal, and Chloe greeted him warmly. As they made their way back to Joseph’s villa, the two chatted about trivial family matters, and Chloe specifically inquired about Joseph’s habits and hobbies.

Upon arriving at their destination, Chloe said to Harold, “Grandpa, go rest up. I’ll call for you when I’ve finished cooking.”

“That’s not necessary. It’s already tiring enough for you to pick me up. We can just get the chef to come by,” Harold replied.

“But...”

“No buts. Patrick will handle everything,” Harold interrupted and walked to the balcony.

The balcony was teeming with a plethora of plants, while a dainty pink apron was hung on the wall of the kitchen. The refrigerator was adorned with cartoon stickers and daily reminders.

Harold ran his hand contentedly over his beard and remarked, “Now this is what a

home should feel like. This place has a much more human touch now compared to when

that scoundrel was overseas all the time.”

Chloe smiled and agreed, a hint of cunning flashing through her almond-shaped eyes. The old man might be old, but he was still as sharp as a tack. Fortunately, she had been smart enough to prepare everything ahead of time.

After strolling around the villa for a while, Harold remembered the main topic of discussion. “Chloe, let’s talk about the gifts for your family-”

Ring, ring!

His words were interrupted by a phone call. Chloe’s tense nerves immediately relaxed. She said, “Grandpa, get some rest. I need to take this call.”

Harold paused for a moment before saying, “Go ahead.”

Chloe went to the backyard to answer the call. “Hello? Who’s this?”

“Hello, Ms. Chloe. I’m the HR manager of Baxon Corporation. Have you found a job yet? Would you be interested in working for our company?”

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Chapter 40 Not as Good as Chloe’s Cooking

Chloe tightened her grip on the railing as she asked, “May I know how you got my contact information?”

‘Did Baxon’s HR give this person my number?’

“That’s not important. The important thing is whether you’re still interested in our company. However, the position of Estrenian translator you wanted has been filled. Janice wasn’t trying to make things hard for you the other day.

“Anyway, the only available position open now with a salary and job scope that matches your capabilities is a project leader position. If this interests you, we can arrange a face-to-face meeting to discuss further.”

“Discuss it with you or with Janice who interviewed me before?”

She had been highly annoyed during that incident and did not wish to meet with the HR personnel who randomly called people in for interviews just to meet performance goals.

“You’ll be talking to me directly.”

“All right then. Let’s set up a time to meet.”

After the call ended, Chloe stared at her phone and got lost in thought. She did not know what made Baxon suddenly change their mind and offer her a new position.

“Why are you standing here daydreaming instead of keeping my grandpa company?”

Suddenly, Joseph appeared, his tall figure and deep gaze looming over her.

“I’ve already been chatting with Grandpa for quite some time. He’s gone upstairs to rest now,” Chloe replied, her pretty almond eyes shining brightly. “You can trust me to handle things.”

Joseph did not say anything more. He had faith in her abilities, as Harold’s fondness for her was genuine. As the two walked into the house, he noticed a change in the decor and his face sank.

“What happened to the house?” he asked, noticing the fresh green plants, the pink apron in the kitchen, and the cartoon stickers and post-it notes on the refrigerator.

Chloe quickly explained in a hushed tone, “You’ve misunderstood. I put these things up so that Grandpa wouldn’t suspect anything.”

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Joseph could not deny that she had a point. However, he was still displeased. These girly decorations just were not his cup of tea.

As Chloe gazed at Joseph’s handsome face-now clouded with displeasure-she felt a growing resentment within her. Despite all the hard work she had put into impressing his grandfather, this insensitive man not only failed to praise her efforts but also showed no empathy whatsoever.

However, Joseph’s mood did not remain sour for long. Just as he was about to tell Chloe, he had found a job for her, Toto, his furry little companion, came bounding down the stairs, wagging its tail and begging for attention.

Joseph’s icy demeanor softened considerably at that moment as he knelt down to scratch Max’s belly. Chloe watched the scene with mixed feelings. She raised a hand to her cheek and got lost in thought when she saw that he showed more affection to a dog than to her.

She wondered if she had no charm at all.

With a despondent sigh, Chloe turned to leave, not wanting to interrupt the tender moment between the man and his dog.

“Chloe,” Joseph suddenly called out to her.

She spun around, her sad expression turning into a bright smile.

“Yes?” she asked.

“Toto will be staying with me from now onward. When you have the time, play with him,” he said.

“Oh, okay,” Chloe replied, her voice devoid of any real emotion.

Joseph watched with furrowed brows as Chloe left in dejection. He thought that she was feeling down because she had not found a job yet after so long, so he decided to tell her after dinner that he had found her a job.

He knew that she would be overjoyed once she heard the news. When the thought surfaced in his mind, a faint smile played at the corners of his lips, unbeknownst to even himself.

Dinner was prepared by a five-star restaurant chef. The table was laden with all sorts of

delicacies.

Chloe savored every bite while Joseph found the food tasteless. Perhaps he had grown accustomed to her cooking over the past month, as he now found her dishes more

delicious than what was served by the restaurant chef.

Had he finally gone insane?

After finishing his meal, Harold wiped his mouth with the handkerchief Patrick handed to him and placed a card in front of Chloe.

“I’m a simple man, Chloe. I don’t know what kind of gift to give you other than money. Buy whatever you like with this. We Whitmans treat all our members with equal kindness.”

“I can’t accept this, Grandpa,” Chloe pushed the card back and said sincerely, “As you said, I’ve already married Joseph, so there’s no need for these things. Joseph has already given me his secondary card and I’m not wanting for anything. Please take the money back and use it however you like.”

With a bashful expression, she raised her eyebrows as she leaned onto Joseph’s shoulder. “Don’t you agree, Jojo?”

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Jojo and Coco’s Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Chapter 41

Posted by **novelj**t, 2166 Views, Released on July 7, 2023

Chapter 41 Is Chloe Not Your Daughter?

Joseph stiffened and murmured robotically, “Yeah.”

Chloe’s words were so pleasant that Harold felt like he was wrapped up in a cotton jacket. He beamed so wide that his smile reached his eyes. “Okay, okay. I’ll do as you say, Chloe.”

They enjoyed their dinner in a harmonious atmosphere, and before Harold left in his *car, he remembered that the two families had yet to meet. However, he resisted the

urge to bring up the information he had uncovered about Chloe’s family.

‘Well,’ he thought, ‘I could just meet them on my own.’

After seeing off Harold, Chloe removed the stickers on the refrigerator and carefully wiped off the glue that stuck to it with a cloth. As she wiped, she told Joseph, “I’ll make it sparkling clean. I’ll remove the potted plants on the balcony too. Rest assured. Your house will go back to exactly the way it was before.”

Joseph felt a bit embarrassed at Chloe’s words. She made it sound like he was the one being unreasonable here. He picked up the leash to take Toto for a walk and said, ‘

Never mind. Let’s just leave it as it is. Grandpa will visit again, and it’s too troublesome to keep rearranging things.”

“You’re right.”

In any case, Chloe did not feel like cleaning everything, so she put away the cloth and went to the bathroom to take a shower. As she approached the bathroom, she turned to Joseph and said, “By the way, what do you think of Baxon Corporation? I’m planning to

go

there for an interview tomorrow.”

“You’ve found a job?”

“Yeah, just today.”

Not understanding why Joseph was not responding, a look of confusion appeared on

Chloe’s face.

When Joseph faintly spoke, his voice was steady and his jaw clenched tightly. Despite the lack of malice in his tone, there was an indescribable, spine-chilling feeling to it as he asked, “Didn’t you say Fairlight was a good choice? And yet you’ve already moved on so quickly?”

Chloe could not figure out how she had upset him and forced out a dry smile.

“I didn’t

Chapter 41 is Chloe Not Your Daughter!

show up on my first day of work at Fairlight, so even if I wanted to work there, it’s not in the cards for me anymore.”

Joseph was momentarily silent before saying, “Baxon’s pretty good.”

Chloe was accustomed to his unpredictable reactions and did not take it to heart.

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Chloe had matters to attend to tomorrow, so she went to bed early. As soon as she lay down, she remembered the “surprise” she wanted to give Joseph

tonight. She thought *of the sexy nightgown she bought today and her face grew hot with anticipation.

Despite this, she decided to delay the plan until after the interview. After all, she had to secure the job before making any moves on Joseph. With a job in hand, she would not have to worry even if he kicked her out.

The next day was overcast, and the streets below the commercial building were crowded with people who seemed busy with their own affairs. They held cups of coffee and looked down at their phones, paying no attention to the dark clouds overhead.

At the appointed time, Chloe arrived at Baxon for her interview. Since she was recommended by an internal staff member, the interview process went smoothly, and she was informed on the spot that she had passed.

Although the salary was not as good as at Fairlight, she was aware that it was probably the best opportunity she could get for the time being. As an unemployed individual, she could not afford to be choosy. Thus, she agreed to begin work the following day.

“Okay, I’ll come in tomorrow.”

In the meantime, at an upscale club, Benjamin was adjusting his clothes with a nervous

best and excited expression on his face. He instructed Ava, “Make sure to give your performance later. We can’t afford to make any mistakes. This is very important since this investor is crucial to our company’s expansion plans.”

“Don’t worry, Dad,” Ava reassured him.

She had taken great care in dressing up. A full face of makeup coupled with bright red lips made her otherwise ordinary appearance seem a bit flashy. With the pressure of her father’s expectations weighing heavily on her, she felt her palms growing sweaty.

“Who is this person and why did he want you to bring me along?” she asked.

Chapter 41 Chloe Not Your Daughter?

“I don’t know either. The old man sent someone to tell me that his granddaughter is about your age and he always brings her along when he conducts business. So, he wanted me to bring my daughter too to keep his granddaughter company,” Benjamin explained.

He may not know much about the old man’s background, but one thing he was certain of was that the man was not an ordinary wealthy person based on the car he drove and the ring on his finger.

“Ah, I see,” Ava replied with a hint of disappointment written on her face. Soon, the door was pushed open. Benjamin and Ava stood up from their chairs and put on a smiling faces to greet the newcomer.

Silently, Harold surveyed the room. When he only saw Ava-who had a forced smile on her face and not Chloe, his face turned grim.

He was displeased with the father in front of him for bringing only Ava. After all, was his granddaughter-in-law not a member of the Johnson family too? No wonder Chloe never mentioned anything about her family to them.

As Ava met Harold’s eyes, her legs could not help but feel weak. She turned to Benjamin, feeling slightly aggrieved and not understanding what she had done wrong.

However, Benjamin’s attention was focused solely on Harold. He was busy pouring tea and handing Harold the menu, trying his very best to cater to the old man’s needs.

Harold’s butler intercepted the glass of water that Benjamin handed over with both hands and said, “Mr. Harold doesn’t drink anything prepared outside. He thinks it’s

dirty.”

Today’s Bonus Offer

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Chapter 42 I'm So Disappointed

There were two possible meanings to this sentence, but either way, it was an insult to

Benjamin.

Upon hearing the butler's words, Benjamin hesitated for a moment, unsure whether to withdraw his hand or not. After a moment of silence, he forced a smile and agreed, "You're right. The water in restaurants may be unclean, and we can't see it."

-Harold ignored him.

Ava mustered up the courage to approach Harold and spoke, "Grandpa Harold, my father mentioned that you were planning to bring your granddaughter. I have a gift prepared for her, but I'm uncertain if it will be to her liking."

She placed a set of five-figure skincare products on the table, eagerly trying to please

Harold.

"My granddaughter had matters to attend to and couldn't make it," Harold replied.

Ava looked disappointed and said, "I was hoping to meet your granddaughter. I'm sure

she's as outstanding as you are."

"Of course, she is," Harold said, stroking his beard. In his opinion, Chloe was the best. After all, she won Joseph's heart and married him at lightning speed. She must possess

exceptional qualities.

The waiter knocked on the door and brought out the dishes one by one. The restaurant offered a wide variety of delicacies. There were wild-caught tuna, pan-seared foie gras, and even a steaming bowl of black truffle beef stew.

As Ava glanced at the expensive dishes, she became aware of how much her father had spent on this spread, but the old man sitting across from her did not seem enticed by it.

This made her even more anxious.

However, upon the mention of his granddaughter, he seemed to become slightly more talkative. Ava decided to employ the same strategy once again.

“Grandpa Harold, the desserts here are great. I’ll order one so that you can bring it back to your granddaughter later. After all, girls love sweet things.”

“Yes, yes, my daughter loves the desserts here.” Benjamin rubbed his hands anxiously and asked, “Did you receive the company information I sent to you, Mr. Harold? The plot of land I selected will definitely soar in value in the next few years. Now’s the

Chapter 42 fm So Disappointed

perfect time to invest in it and use it as a new area to expand our company. It’s a risk-free opportunity worth considering.”

As an investor who had taken the initiative to approach them, Harold must have faith in Artron’s potential. Generally speaking, the chances of success were high. However, Benjamin’s gut feelings were telling him that the elderly man in front of him was not

here to discuss business but to cause trouble.

Harold ignored him completely and asked, “Your daughter? Which daughter? I heard you have two. Why did you only bring one today?”

“Well...” Benjamin shook his head and sighed, his face showing a hint of disappointment and disgust at the mention of Chloe. “The one other is unruly. Let’s don’t talk about her.”

“How is she unruly?” the butler interjected. He sounded puzzled. “Girls are generally well-behaved and obedient.”

At this point, Benjamin began to talk without reservation. He ranted and raved about all the bad things Chloe had done, “You don’t know. Not only did she try to steal Ava’s boyfriend, but also hooked up with an old man recently. Once

she got in that Rolls- Royce, she never came back. It's disheartening to have a daughter like her."

"Enough!" Harold slammed his hand on the table in anger and pointed fiercely at Benjamin. "Even if your daughter really did intrude on someone else's family, as her father, you have no right to speak ill of her when others criticize her. It's your responsibility to make sure she doesn't turn out this way!"

Most importantly, the man inside that Rolls-Royce was not an old man! It was his grandson!

He felt that Benjamin was not only stupid but also blind.

Benjamin was dumbfounded for several minutes and did not understand how their discussion had taken this turn.

Ava was equally scared out of her wits. "Grandpa Harold, please don't be angry. My dad didn't mean it. He just thinks-"

"Stop calling me that! I'm not your grandpa!" Harold had always been hot-tempered, and now he was too upset to pretend otherwise. He glared at Benjamin and said, "I don't think there's any need to cooperate with a father as irresponsible as you."

The butler understood the situation and quickly went to open the door of the private room.

Benjamin and Ava watched in shock as Harold left, their minds completely blank. "Dad... Did I say something wrong?" Ava asked, looking at Benjamin.

Today's Bonus Offer

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Chapter 43 Punish Her

Benjamin refused to admit that it was his fault, so he went with it and shifted the blame onto his daughter.

He stated, "Of course, it's your fault. If it isn't, then whose fault could it possibly be?"

Mine?”

Ava’s face turned red with frustration, but she did not dare retort. She had only made an -offhand remark, and it was his fault for using Chloe’s scandal as fodder for small talk

with potential investors.

What did any of this have to do with her?

With both being located downtown, Fairlight and Baxon were situated not far from

each other.

On her first day of work at Baxon, Chloe found herself attending a company-wide meeting. As she followed her colleagues into the conference room, a man in his thirties. greeted her warmly, “Hello there.”

Chloe looked at the unfamiliar man, then glanced at the work badge pinned to his chest. which read “Harry Smith, Director of Operations.” Though she did not understand why he was greeting her, she responded politely, “Hello.”

“I’m Icarus’s old friend. He was the one who recommended you to me,” Harry explained.

Chloe was stunned and she opened her mouth wide in shock. “You know Icarus?”

“I absolutely do. So when he recommended you to me, I wrote your referral letter.” Harry laughed. “Don’t forget to treat Icarus and me to dinner one day.”

She appeared delighted as she said, “Sure! Thank you so much. I really appreciate it.”

Chloe never thought that Icarus would go out of his way to help her as they had only ever met twice.

Meanwhile at Fairlight.

Patrick had taken the day off, so Joseph had to drive himself. After he was done with work, he went to the underground parking lot to pick up his car. Along the way, he

Chapter 43 Punish Her

checked the messages on his phone only to find that Chloe had not contacted him all day. Usually, she would have sent him more than ten messages by now.

Joseph squinted his eyes and a sneer played on his lips. It seemed to him that she had become bolder after landing a job. She had not even asked him what he wanted to have for dinner tonight.

As he had anticipated, Chloe was not home by the time he arrived. He assumed that she would only be an hour behind him, but it was not until eleven at night when he caught sight of a delicate figure stepping out of a cab.

When Chloe saw Joseph standing in the courtyard with an unhappy expression, she asked in confusion, "Why are you still up at this hour?"

Joseph was always mindful of maintaining his physical health, following a strict routine of rising at seven in the morning and sleeping by ten at night. He abstained from engaging in leisure activities such as video games or card games, and would only read financial news in his idle hours. His disciplined lifestyle was reminiscent of that of an elderly person.

"I haven't had my dinner yet, so how can I sleep?" he replied with a forced smile that clashed with the darkening shadows on his face.

Unaware of the gravity of the situation, Chloe blinked and asked, "Oh, why haven't eaten? Are you not feeling well or do you not have an appetite?"

Joseph remained silent.

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As she watched the man's face grow darker, she belatedly exclaimed, "Have you been waiting for me all this time?!"

"What do you think?" Joseph responded, his icy voice sending a chill down Chloe's

spine.

She trembled and quickly apologized, “I’m so sorry. I was just so busy today. Why didn’t you call me?”

“Take a look at your phone. Can anyone reach you?”

Chloe was taken aback and hastily fished out her phone from her bag. It was out of battery and had been switched off.

“Jojo, I was just so busy today and forgot to check my phone...”

Taking a deep breath, Joseph pointed toward the kitchen. “Instead of wasting time talking, how about you get to cooking?”

finish Her

“Okay, okay. I’ll go make dinner right now. What do you want to eat?” Chloe knew she was in the wrong and readily agreed.

“I want mushroom soup, meat with potatoes, and pan-seared sea bass.”

“But those will take too long to make. How about pasta instead?”

“Is this how you show your sincerity?”

“Fine, fine. I’ll go make them for you.”

“As he watched the woman donning an apron and scuttling into the kitchen, his mood.

improved slightly. “Forget it. I’ll just have pasta.”

Joseph did not actually want those dishes. He was just punishing Chloe for not answering his calls.

Jojo and Coco’s Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Chapter 44 I’ve Got Great Assets

While sitting at the dining table and waiting for Chloe to finish cooking dinner, Joseph browsed through the company’s internal chat group where everyone was gossiping.

[Breaking news! Baxon's executive got an employee pregnant. Someone saw him taking the employee to the hospital for an abortion!)

[Is this executive named Maurice Oberden?]

[Yes! How did you know?]

[His scandals have been circulating in the financial world. Rumor has it that his wife found out and confronted him at his office last year. Don't know why they're not divorced yet though.]

[His wife is a full-time housewife. A divorce won't be easy considering her situation.]

Joseph scrolled down and the gossip about the Baxon's executive ended there. He switched his phone off just as Chloe finished making the pasta.

"Ta-da, your carbonara is ready! I even made you an omelet!"

Joseph then looked at her plate, which contained nothing but some blanched broccoli.

"Have you had your dinner?"

"No, I'm on a diet and don't want to eat too much."

Although it was generally advised not to eat anything at this late hour, her stomach was rumbling so loudly as she cooked that she could not resist making some blanched

broccoli for herself.

"You're not fat. There's no need for you to go on a diet," Joseph said seriously.

Spring and summer were generally busy seasons for companies, and there were a lot of things for Chloe to learn at her new job. If she was not at peak physical health, she might quickly become exhausted and burnt out.

"No! I weighed myself today and saw that I've gained six pounds!"

If a woman could not control her weight, how did she expect to control a man?!

Jaws set tight, Joseph stared unblinkingly at the stubborn woman before him. "If you want to lose weight, don't do it in front of me."

"I..." Chloe opened her mouth to fight back but hesitated before changing the subject.

"

I understand. You're afraid that if I lose weight, I won't be curvy anymore and you don't

like that."

"Seriously?" Joseph massaged his temples. "What the heck is going on inside that head of yours?"

He had been joking when he said he liked curvy women but she had taken his words

seriously.

"But Jojo, men like curvy women, not overweight ones. They need to be filled in all the right places." Chloe then puffed out her chest confidently and said in all seriousness, "As for myself, I've got great assets. Even if I were to lose some weight, my curves would

still be noticeable."

Observing her behavior and facial expression, Joseph's eyes shifted as he avoided her gaze. "Are you always this expressive? Do you just blurt out everything that crosses your mind?"

Chloe looked at him with an innocent expression and asked, "What did I say that was wrong? I was simply stating facts. It's not like I'm showing you my thighs or bum."

He was at a loss for words, unable to refute her statement.

Chloe noticed that Joseph was rendered speechless for the first time. She blinked and leaned in closer to him, almost touching his face, and inquired in a playful tone, "Jojo, are you feeling shy?"

"Me? Shy?" He sneered and met her gaze. "I just have a sense of shame."

Chloe pouted as she did not believe him.

After they had finished their dinner, Joseph said, “Be careful of a man named Maurice

from Baxon.”

Having only been there for a day, Chloe had no recollection of this name and could only recall hearing a few comments from her colleagues. Bewildered, she asked, “Why?”

Joseph did not say anything further and replied, “You’ll understand in the future.”

During the following month, Chloe made a great effort to integrate into her new workplace, often leaving early and returning late. As a result, she had less time to devote to cooking and occasionally relied on Joseph to prepare late meals. However, he always prepared simple dishes, which prevented Chloe from realizing the true breadth of his culinary skills.

Chapter 44 Tve Got Great Assets

One day, Chloe attended her culinary class after work and ran into fearus, whom she had not seen in a while. She seemed surprised and asked, “You haven’t been coming to class lately.”

Ever since Harry mentioned that Icarus had recommended her for the job at Baxon, she had been eager to invite him out for a meal. Unfortunately, she was never able to meet him as he had been absent from class.

“Yeah, I’ve had a few work-related things to take care of, so I was out of the country for a few days. I heard you joined Baxon. How’s it going? Are you getting used to it?” Icarus

asked.

“It’s going swimmingly,” Chloe replied.

Chloe disliked being indebted to others. As soon as the class ended, she invited Icarus to a meal. “When are you free? I’d like to treat you and Mr. Harry to a meal. After all, without your recommendation, I wouldn’t have been able to join Baxon.”

“Sounds good. Just let me know the time and place.”

“Sure, but I don’t think we can do it today. I have to head back and finish my assignment,” she replied, gesturing toward the dessert recipe handed out by their

instructor.

The tuition fees were high for a reason. The class structure was strict, and there was not room for personal adjustments. Additionally, after each session, the instructor would provide the students with ingredients to practice with at home.

“In that case, I won’t keep you. It looks like it’s going to rain soon, and it won’t be easy. to hail a cab in such weather. Do you want me to give you a ride home?” Icarus.

suggested as he glanced outside at the darkening sky.

Chloe considered for a moment and thought it made sense. After all, she had been

looking forward to Saturday. She planned to make some homemade dog food for Toto, but if she got home too late, she would not have enough time to finish.

“Okay, thank you in advance.” She accepted his offer.

As expected, halfway through the ride, it began to rain heavily.

Pointing toward a nearby spot, Chloe said, “I’ll get off up there.”

Icarus looked at the mart ahead and guessed that she was going to buy something. He stepped on the brakes and parked the car on the side of the road.

“Thank you for the ride. I’ll text you when I’ve decided on the time and place.”

Chapter 44 I’ve Got Great Assets

After speaking, Chloe covered her head with her hands and sped off toward the mart’s

entrance.

She was dressed in a black, form-fitting knitted dress that swayed gracefully as she ran, making her look alluring and charming. Hands gripping the steering wheel, Icarus kept his gaze fixed on her figure, unable to look away even after she entered the mart.

Chloe got all the ingredients for the dog food and walked out of the mart with two large -bags in her arms. Across the street was a five-story pool hall nestled inside a

commercial building.

Joseph held a cue stick and bent down slowly, his slim-fitting suit vest accentuating his broad shoulders and narrow waist. He pressed his left wrist against the table and used his slender fingers as a bridge to support the cue stick. Narrowing his eyes slightly, he expertly hit the white ball on the table with the cue stick which then hit the red ball on the right, pushing it into the pocket.

“Great shot!” Nathan clapped enthusiastically.

Joseph glanced outside the window and caught a glimpse of Chloe who was downstairs. He hesitated for a moment, remembering that she was going to make dog food for Toto today.

‘Oh well, since she’s making food for my pet, I could give her a ride back,’ he thought. With that thought in his mind, Joseph threw his cue stick to Nathan, startling the man.

“Are we leaving already? Don’t you want to play a little longer?” “Nope. I have to go home and take Toto for a walk,” he replied.

Today’s Bonus Offer

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Chapter 45 What’s Wrong With Me Wearing Something Sexy?

Nathan felt something was off with Joseph.

Upon catching sight of Chloe downstairs, Nathan narrowed his eyes. He instantly grasped the reason for Joseph's eagerness to leave despite only having been here for a while. A smile danced on Nathan's lips as he lightly stroked his chin.

'It's no wonder that he's so eager to leave. It seems like someone's in the season of love.

The mart was not far from home, and Chloe planned on carrying the bags home herself when Joseph appeared in front of her. Her sweet face held a look of surprise as she asked, "What are you doing here?"

"Just hanging out with a friend," Joseph said, smoothly taking the bags from her hand.

"I see." Chloe followed him toward the parking lot. "The cooking class gave out ingredients to make a cake today. I'll make it for you when we get back."

"Okay."

As they walked together beneath the westbound sun, their figures overlapped and cast intertwined shadows on the ground. They appeared like a couple deeply in love.

Two hours later, Chloe placed the cake and the meatballs meant for Toto in front of Joseph.

With its mouth agape, Toto swiftly devoured the meatballs one after another, polishing them off in just a few bites. It then rubbed its fluffy head against Chloe's arm as a gesture of gratitude.

"Do you like them?" she asked.

"Woof, woof!" Toto wagged its tail joyfully as if it could understand her words and was trying its best to show its support.

Chloe smiled and said, "Okay, okay. I'll go to the kitchen and get you some more."

"Don't overfeed him." Joseph looked up.

Toto had gained eleven pounds ever since coming to this house and now looked more like a fluffy sheep than a Border Collie from a distance.

After hearing this, Toto's tail stopped wagging as it lay down on the ground pitifully. The dog's dark eyes fixated on Chloe, filled with yearning, hoping she would get more. meatballs.

Chloe shrugged helplessly. There was nothing she could do either.

"I'm going to my room for a bit," Chloe said, her face tinted with a rosy hue.

Joseph noticed the change in her expression.

Half an hour passed, but Chloe had yet to come back down. Joseph grew suspicious and instinctively knew that she was hiding something from him. He climbed up the stairs. and stopped in front of her room.

The door was slightly ajar, and warm-toned light from inside spilled out onto the floor. He could faintly hear her talking to someone. It was a man, but he could not make out what they were saying. He only knew that they were on a video call.

Inside the room, Chloe was patiently guiding Icarus, who had failed his assignment

three times.

"Brush the pan with some oil and follow the steps that the instructor gave us. It's better to start with a small amount and test it first, rather than pouring all the ingredients in and wasting them if it doesn't turn out well," Chloe advised him.

"Okay, I'll give it a try," Icarus said lightly, "Since you spent so much time helping me, how about I treat you to a movie in a couple of days as compensation?"

'A man and a woman going to watch a movie together?'

Chloe was not sure if she was imagining things, but even if she was, she could not possibly accept his invitation. She politely declined, and Icarus showed understanding. He did not feel the slightest bit dejected at her rejection.

After the call ended, Chloe quietly slipped off her robe to reveal a fine and seductive negligee that accentuated her curves. Her skin, visible beneath the

delicate fabric, was as smooth as silk, exuding a mesmerizing appeal that was both captivating and breathtaking.

She felt a little embarrassed. Despite her flirtatious banter with Joseph, she was quite conservative at heart. She had maintained her last line of defense during the entire time she was with Jake, and now...

'Screw it. What's the point of overthinking things? Joseph and I are legally married, so what's wrong with me wearing something sexy?'

Chapter 45 What's Wrong With Me Wearing Something!

Taking a deep breath, Chloe steeled herself and headed downstairs to find Joseph. But as she reached for the door handle, she was startled..

Joseph was standing right outside the door, his icy gaze fixed on her with a mix of contempt and anger.

"Chloe, I won't interfere in your affairs after the contract expires, but I won't allow you to flirt around or bring shame to me while living under my roof!"

Jojo and Coco's Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Chapter 46 Suspected of Theft

Chloe was both ashamed and angry. Her voice rose sharply. "You were eavesdropping on my conversation?!"

She could not comprehend why he was accusing her of such a thing. 'Is he hard of hearing? If he had indeed overheard my conversation, why is he accusing me like this?'

"I was just passing by." Joseph sneered as he shook the cup he was holding in her face.

He spoke the truth. Despite being angry upon overhearing Chloe's conversation with another man, he was not someone who lacked emotional control, nor did he have a habit of snooping on other people's conversations.

He was not expecting to come across such a scandalous scene just as he was walking out of his bedroom after retrieving his water glass.

Chloe did not know how to explain. Her face turned red with anger, and she quickly made a voice call to Icarus in front of Joseph.

“Open your eyes and see if I’m flirting with anybody!” she exclaimed.

“End the call. You’ve embarrassed yourself enough,” Joseph mocked her.

Just as Chloe was about to faint from anger, Icarus answered. His voice was thick with surprise and he sounded confused. “Chloe? Why are you calling me again?”

Did she want to chat with him because she could not sleep?

In a split second, Chloe’s tone shifted, and she spoke calmly, “I just remembered that I forgot to mention that you don’t need to adhere to the temperature and time settings. strictly mentioned online for baking the cake. Just check on it from time to time and adjust it accordingly.”

“Okay, got it,” Icarus responded with a hint of disappointment in his voice.

“All right, goodnight.” Chloe hung up and confidently turned to Joseph, who stood silently next to her. “I was just chatting with my friend about baking, and you accuse me of flirting with him? Just how dirty-minded are you?!”

“What about the clothes you’re wearing?” Joseph’s fury subsided slightly, but his tone remained severe.

It was just a thin layer of clothes. Could anyone have a regular video call with a friend. while dressed in this way?

“I’m wearing it to seduce you!” Chloe yelled. She moved closer, lifted her head to meet his gaze, and added, “Does that answer satisfy you?”

Joseph was taken aback. Gazing at the scantily dressed woman in front of him, he tugged at his collar irritably and replied, “No, I’m not satisfied.”

“Bullsh*t. You mentioned that you prefer women with curves, and this attire perfectly highlights my figure. Aren’t I curvy enough?” Chloe retorted in frustration, surprised by her failed attempt at seduction. Her ears turned red, making her look like a boiled shrimp.

Before he could respond, Chloe ran back into her room and angrily stripped off the negligee. “I got cheated! This damn thing doesn’t work!”

Joseph stood outside her room for a long time. His anger slowly dissipated and he could not help but chuckle, "Silly woman. As a girl, she should be more reserved."

Chloe felt that Joseph had played her like a fool, and she vented to Emily until late at night before finally falling asleep.

The next day at Baxon Corporation.

Chloe was following up with a client in her office when several police officers came in.

"Are you Ms. Chloe Johnson?"

She nodded hesitantly. "Yes, that's me. Is there something wrong?"

"We received a report that you're suspected of theft. Please come with us and cooperate with our investigation."

"What did I steal?"

"A pair of bracelets worth 400,000 dollars."

"What?!" Chloe was flabbergasted. "Are you sure you have the right person, officer? I didn't take any bracelets."

"You said you didn't take them, but do you know Mr. Jake Cooper?" the police officer

asked.

"Yeah, I do." Chloe hesitated for a moment before something came to mind. "Are you talking about his family heirloom? I returned them to him already."

The officer explained, "Mr. Jake suspects that the bracelets you returned to him are fakes, so he reported it to us. That's why we need to investigate."

Chapter 46 Suspected of Theft

Chloe's heart skipped a beat and she explained, "Officer, I didn't do anything wrong. There must be some misunderstanding."

“Even if there’s a misunderstanding, we still need you to come to the station to clarify the situation. After all, the amount involved is not small,” the officer replied.

As Chloe’s colleagues heard the commotion, they gathered outside her office, staring at the scene with mixed expressions. Some were curious, while others remained

indifferent and apathetic.

However, not a single person approached her to show concern or ask what was happening.

Jojo and Coco’s Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Chapter 47 If You Apologize, You Won’t End up in Jail

Chloe’s face turned pale as she clenched her fists, knowing that Ava must be behind all of this.

If she followed the police back to the station today, her reputation in the company would be ruined. However, she had no choice but to go.

Chloe took a deep breath and said, “I’ll go, but I want to make it clear that if the investigation proves that I’m innocent and have nothing to do with the case, Jake must apologize to me.”

The police could not control these matters and replied, “Once the results of the investigation come out, you can negotiate privately.”

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At the police station, Ava sat in front of Chloe and said in a low voice, “Why do you insist on working at a big company? Now, you’re back to square one. No big company will hire a criminal.”

Chloe smirked and retorted without hesitation, “I got into a big company solely based on my abilities. And what about you? Apart from framing others, what skills do you possess? You aspire to work in a big company but evidently lack the ability to secure a position in one.”

Ava dropped out of high school due to falling in love at an early age, and even with the family's help, she barely made it to a third-rate university. Otherwise, maybe she would have managed to seduce that scumbag Jake during his college years.

The things Chloe said struck Ava's nerves, but instead of getting angry, she boasted, "You better think about how to get out of here. No matter what I did, I won't have to spend my remaining years in prison!"

As soon as she had finished speaking, Jake and the officer walked in.

Ava pretended to fall to the ground and cried out in despair, "Why did you push me, Coco?"

Fed up with Ava's antics, Chloe exclaimed in anger, "No one pushed you, so stop playing the victim! Show some dignity, will you?!"

Jake helped Ava up and then looked at Chloe in disgust. "You're not fooling anyone by playing innocent. My advice to you is to hand over the bracelets right now. I might be

Chapter

Apologize, You

willing to overlook our past relationship, but if you continue to exploit us and treat everyone like fools, I'll make sure you face legal consequences."

"Are you nuts? I haven't done anything wrong. I'm innocent and have nothing to fear. Why should I be afraid?" Chloe retorted.

If she had wanted those bracelets so badly, she would have taken them long ago.

"Quiet!" the police officer shouted. After that, he presented a pair of bracelets to Chloe. "Do you recognize these?"

-She inspected the bracelets that looked almost identical to Jake's family heirloom.

Although they appeared no different on the surface, she could tell by touching them that they were not the same ones.

“I haven’t seen these bracelets,” Chloe said, quickly explaining to the police, “This pair isn’t the one I returned to them!”

The police officer frowned and said, “We know that these bracelets are not Mr. Jake’s family heirloom. Can you provide evidence to prove that you’re not involved with these bracelets?”

“I don’t have them. I haven’t been in possession of these bracelets recently, so how could I provide any evidence?” Chloe said.

“You don’t, but I do.” Jake sneered as a woman walked in.

The woman could not look Chloe in the eye as she spoke, “Ms. Chloe, do you remember buying these bracelets from my store a few days ago?”

Chloe’s brain froze for a moment, and she gritted her teeth, realizing she had fallen into their trap. But she had not done anything wrong. Ava had taken everything from her. Her father, her boyfriend... Why did she still have to go to such lengths to frame her?

She looked at the woman and asked, “If I went to your store, do you have the receipt or surveillance footage?”

“You paid with cash, and the surveillance camera in our store isn’t working,” the woman replied.

Ava approached Chloe and spoke timidly, “Jake is just very angry right now. Apologize and let me handle the rest. I assure you that you won’t end up in jail.”

Jojo and Coco’s Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Chapter 48 Ava, You’re Too Kind

Fairness existed in the world, and after the police officers conducted a thorough investigation, Chloe knew she would be released.

Jake felt disappointed that Chloe remained obstinate and uncooperative, so he swiftly departed with Ava.

In the end, it turned out that Chloe was too naive. After spending several hours at the “station, she was physically and mentally devastated, and her temper had been

completely worn down. She tried her best to explain herself to the police, but her explanations fell flat in the face of the “sufficient” evidence.

After Ava and Jake left, the latter could not stop complaining about Chloe.

“Why would she use such underhanded tactics to cheat me of my money? If she really needs it, she could’ve just asked me. Those bracelets are my family heirloom that has been passed down for generations. How could she sell it so brazenly? I was blind to fall for her in the first place!”

“Maybe Coco has been going through a tough time,” Ava said in a soothing voice, “But Jake, whatever the result may be, I hope you won’t bear any ill will toward her. Consider it as a favor to me. I’ll make sure that you get your bracelets back.”

Jake embraced her tightly and said, “Ava, you’re too kind. Chloe doesn’t deserve your kindness.”

“We’re family. She’s my sister, so it’s only natural that I treat her well.”

When Ava got home, the woman who gave her statement at the station was already waiting for her.

“I’ve done my part. Please give me the money quickly. My child is still in the hospital waiting for surgery...” the woman begged.

Her son’s condition worsened all of a sudden. She was already struggling to pay her rent, and now she had to give false testimony....

As for Chloe, the woman had no other choice but to do this and just feel sorry for her.

Ava looked at the woman and threw a card on the floor, saying, “It’s only 150,000

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Chapter 42 Ava. You’ve Too Kind

dollars. Did you think I was going to run away? Take the money and get out of here.”

At three in the afternoon, Ginny bounced out of her father’s office, clutching a cone of ice cream in her hand. Suddenly, something caught her eye and she came to an abrupt halt. She stared at Chloe in amazement and asked, “Aunt Coco, what are you doing in this room?”

Her father had told her that the person inside might be a bad person, but she knew Chloe could not be a bad person because bad people would not help her braid her hair.

Chloe was taken aback at first, but then her eyes lit up when she saw the little girl. ” Ginny, what are you doing here?”

“My daddy works here.”

“Your daddy is here? Who’s your dad?” Chloe was shocked.

“My daddy is a police officer here. He’s the best one,” Ginny said, her braids almost standing on end from the pride she exuded.

Chloe felt like she had caught a lifeline and said with great enthusiasm, “Ginny, I really need to see your daddy right now. Can you please call him over for me?”

Ginny was startled by Chloe’s words, but she nodded obediently and ran back to her father’s office.

Tyson Reyes was a detective and had just returned from his morning rounds.

When he learned that Joseph’s wife was being detained in the station, his hands trembled. He hastily set down his cup and immediately went to inquire about the situation. As he approached the interrogation room, he hesitated for a few seconds. Realizing that Joseph was likely unaware of the situation, he pulled out his phone to give him a call.

Today’s Bonus Offer

Jojo and Coco’s Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Chapter 49 Shouldn’t You Be Thanking Me?

After briefly explaining the whole situation to Joseph, Tyson went to the interrogation

room to see Chloe.

Although they did not cross paths when they attended the party at the Whitmans' not long ago, Tyson knew about Chloe. In light of their relationship, she should call him "Uncle Tyson." However, Chloe was aware that the current moment was unsuitable for introductions.

"About a month back, I gave the bracelets to Jake at a coffee shop on Dixie Street. You can check the surveillance footage there. It's been quite some time since then, so I wonder why he reported it only now if what he said is true. There must be something going on.

"Moreover, the store owner who gave her testimony must also be involved in this. Today was my first time ever seeing her! You can start investigating her to gather more information," Chloe said, listing all the suspicious details she could think of.

However, she felt disheartened when the person across from her remained silent. The man in front of her was Joseph's uncle, and although they were only related by marriage, there was a slim chance Tyson knew Jake.

"Chloe, I'll consider investigating the details you have provided. Don't worry," Tyson said. When he felt his phone vibrating in his pocket, he continued, "I have to step out for a moment."

Tyson walked out and answered the phone. A magnetic, icy voice spoke on the other end.

"I'm at the station."

"Wait a moment, I'll be right there," Tyson replied.

The station spent the entire afternoon investigating the cause and consequences of the case. Jake had only reported the incident this morning and it had yet to be officially registered, so Tyson took charge and handled the case himself.

With narrowed eyes, he examined the picture of the jewelry maintenance store owner

on the blackboard.

“Since she claimed the store’s camera was out of order, we can obtain footage from the

vicinity of the store,” he asserted and promptly sent someone to retrieve it.

After a while, the officer responsible for retrieving the surveillance footage sent over a video. The time stamp on the video indicated that it was from three days ago. In the footage, Ava visited the woman’s store with the bracelets, looking to get them polished. She stayed there for fifteen minutes before leaving, and an hour later, the woman closed the store and left, carrying a beautifully wrapped box with her. Upon closer inspection, the box in her arms was the same one that Ava had brought the bracelets in.

The woman was swiftly apprehended and taken to the station. Upon being questioned, she readily admitted, “I coveted the bracelets, so I swapped them out with counterfeit ones I made at home.”

Tyson sensed that there was something wrong and turned his gaze toward Joseph, who was sitting in the adjacent restroom. Upon seeing the gloomy expression on Joseph’s face, Tyson started to sweat profusely.

In any case, he decided to temporarily notify the owner of the bracelet to come over.

The woman was relieved when she saw that Tyson was not going to press her further, and tears welled up in her eyes. Just an hour ago, her son had experienced a major blood loss during surgery and the 150,000 dollars she had was not enough to cover the costs.

She had to return to Ava and ask for more money, and just at that moment, she received a call from the station. Ava had offered to provide an additional 300,000 dollars and a letter of forgiveness if she took responsibility.

Chloe was greatly taken aback when she saw Joseph. She thought she was hallucinating and rubbed her eyes several times before confirming that it was really Joseph standing in front of her. She frowned slightly and asked, “How... How did you get here?”

“Why didn’t you tell me?” Joseph asked, his icy tone indicating that he was in a bad mood.

“I...I didn’t know how to tell you about it. You already know?”

“Of course,” Joseph urged impatiently, “Why are you still standing there?”

Nervously, Chloe trailed behind him with a perplexed expression on her face. Once they were out of the station, Joseph gave her an exasperated look and said, “I got you out. Shouldn’t you be thanking me?”

Did she really not trust him? If it were not for Tyson, he would probably still be in the

dark.

Chloe lowered her head and said, “Thank you.”

Noticing Chloe’s exhausted expression, Joseph inferred that she had had a rough day. Despite his lingering discontent, he refrained from reprimanding her any further.

“There are several inconsistencies in this case, and considering the victim’s forgiveness letter, the defendant is likely to receive a lenient punishment.”

“Victim?” Chloe was stunned and she looked at him. “You didn’t see... I mean, you – didn’t meet the victim?”

“Why should I meet the victim?” Joseph asked, “That’s the police’s job. I’m not at policeman.”

Though he could have gotten Chloe out on his own, since Tyson was family and worked at the station, he decided to trust Tyson to handle the case.

Jojo and Coco’s Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Chapter 50 She Planned on Giving Them a Big Present

Patting her chest, Chloe let out a long sigh and muttered, “Thank goodness you didn’t see him.”

She had not truly become Joseph’s wife yet, so she was not ready to confess to him.

“What did you say?”

“Nothing. I didn’t say anything,” Chloe replied. After regaining some of her composure, she apologized, sounding a little guilty, “I’m sorry for wasting your time today.”

Joseph did not respond. As he turned the wheel skillfully with his slender fingers, he said in a serious voice, “You know that there’s something fishy about today’s matter, right?”

“Yeah...”

“You have a lot of enemies.”

After a period of unemployment, Chloe finally secured a job, but she managed to cause a huge problem within the first month. Although Baxon might let her stay on, she would need to find the courage to confront the rumors and gossip that would surely

circulate.

With a bitter smile, she explained, “It’s not that I’m bad at dealing with people. Luck just hasn’t been on my side.”

Being born into an unfair family and having a father as biased as Benjamin was the

source of all her sorrow.

Joseph stepped on the accelerator and said, “Don’t think too much. Go home and get some rest. Go to work as usual tomorrow. If Baxon is willing to keep you, then stay. If

not, quit as soon as you can.”

He had always looked down on Baxon, particularly their executives in the project team. They were willing to sacrifice their employees to achieve their targets, showing a complete lack of humanity in their pursuit of profits. Maurice was among those on the project team.

“No. As long as Baxon doesn’t fire me, I’ll keep working here. I can’t afford to lose this job,” Chloe said firmly, shaking her head.

She could enjoy her days with the card that Joseph had given her, but she was not the

owner of the card and had no security. Besides, Joseph had not developed any romantic feelings for her yet and she could not rely on him completely unless she found a better place to go. At least not for now.

Chloe was not a pushover and would not stay silent when treated unfairly. It would be Ava and Jake's engagement party soon, and she planned on giving them a big present.

The news of the case being resolved quickly spread to Baxon. Yesterday, those colleagues who had chosen to stand by and watch the show came one by one to comfort Chloe. She had already seen their true faces and did not want to talk to them, so she gave them curt replies and went back to her desk.

Janice from the HR department walked over and said in a sarcastic tone, "Wow, you're amazing. You were brought to the police station and managed to get out. You must be well-connected."

Chloe had not said anything yet when Maurice suddenly appeared from the corridor and joked, "Well, it's normal for someone as beautiful as Chloe to have some connections."

Maurice had taken a liking to Chloe a month ago. After observing her for a while, he realized that she was a proud woman. He had been hinting at her for a half month, but she remained unfazed. One time, she almost slapped him. He had not met such a tough nut in a long time. If he could not win her over, he was determined to make her suffer a little.

"Wow, that sounds great. I wish I had some connections too. Who knows? I might be made team leader right after joining a company," exclaimed Janice in a shrill voice that was unpleasant to the ears.

"

"What are you talking about? Our team leader got to where she is through her abilities,

defended a girl in Chloe's team.

She took a day off yesterday, and when she came in this morning, she learned about the big incident. Fortunately, Chloe was cleared of suspicion and returned safely.

“What am I talking about? Why don’t you ask her yourself?” Janice scoffed coldly, “Everyone in HR knows that Chloe originally applied for an Estrenian translator position. But after just a few days, she magically became a team leader. Who would believe that she didn’t use connections?”

Because of this incident, the manager discovered that she had manipulated her performance and lost a month’s bonus.

Chloe’s teammate was so angry that her chest heaved up and down. Just as she was about to roll up her sleeves, Chloe stepped forward and said innocently to Janice, “You

wish you had some connections too? But too bad, you can’t.”

Janice knew that Chloe’s words were not friendly, but she still could not help asking, “Why?”

“Because... You’re not pretty enough.”

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