

Jojo and Coco's Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Chapter 501 A Disgusting Relationship

Thankfully, Lucas got there in time and instructed the security guards to drive the away. He then led her to the safety of the elevator.

reporters

"I'm afraid those reporters won't budge for the day. You'll have to leave through the back door later."

Chloe knitted her brows slightly. "Got it. Is Joseph very busy today?"

Lucas nodded firmly. "Yes, he's been having meetings with the executives. Someone opposes the motion of dismissing Preston from the board. They think it's bad for Fairlight's reputation."

"Yes, it kind of is," Chloe replied honestly.

Lucas gave her a strange look. 'I wasn't expecting her to be so kind. Octavia has targeted her many times, yet she doesn't hold a grudge against Octavia's family.'

"Dismissing Preston is ideal but it'd be better to do it quietly and not let everyone learn about

it."

Preston and his family were ungrateful pests. They leeches off Joseph but never once showed gratitude toward him. Joseph might as well give up such relatives.

Lucas was struck speechless. He felt that he had been overthinking.

An idea suddenly popped into Chloe's mind. She inevitably murmured, "Let everyone learn about it..."

Given his intelligence, It was a piece of cake for Joseph to secretly drive Preston and his family out of the Whitman Group. This large mess was undoubtedly created for outsiders to witness.

'So this is all a scheme to make Joseph fall out with Harold...'

Chloe calmed herself and walked to the door of the office. When she raised her hand to knock, she heard conversation within the office.

"You're heartless, Joseph. It's fine for you to dismiss Jonathan from the board, but now you want to get rid of Preston, your own uncle, too? Aren't you afraid of public condemnation?"

"Are you here to seek justice for Preston?"

"Of course."

"I see... I thought you were here because you're angry about the loss of five points of interest."

"That's what I deserve. It's normal while doing business."

"Does that include letting your daughter climb into Preston's bed?"

Chloe gaped while eavesdropping outside. Preston had cheated on his wife.

Edgar Cottrell looked like a sore spot had been brought up and shouted agitatedly,

"They like each other. What does that have to do with me?"

"She likes married men?"

"Stop putting up a noble front. You approved it when Hazel came to the Whitman Group to work as an intern. If she didn't look like Xavia, would you have agreed to hire her?"

Chloe's head buzzed. She abruptly opened the door and stared at Joseph.
"What does that mean? You found a substitute?"

That woman was his uncle's mistress. What a disgusting relationship!

"Don't listen to his nonsense." The veins on Joseph's forehead throbbed. He rebuked Edgar sternly, "Get out."

Upon seeing Chloe barge into the office, Edgar decided to throw all caution to the wind. He took out his phone and flipped through his photo gallery. "See?

This is Hazel Cottrell. During those years that Xavia went missing, Hazel came to the Whitman Group for an internship. Joseph didn't even look over her resume before approving her. I'm sure I don't have to tell you the rest."

Chloe stared at the photograph closely. The woman in it was charming and adorable with facial features that slightly resembled Xavia's. But she did not have the temperament Xavia possessed-instead full of shyness and youthfulness. She looked very much like how Xavia would look back when Xavia was younger.

Joseph snatched the phone, looking furious. "Hazel no longer works in the Whitman Group. That's the past. I didn't read her resume, but the HR did."

Edgar raised a sarcastic remark. "Yes, she didn't meet the recruitment criteria, but you still turned a blind eye to it and hired her."

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Score 9.5

Chapter 502 Calming Green Tea

A stalemate ensued. Chloe could no longer hear Joseph's retorts. Subconsciously, she was enlightened-Edgar had been telling the truth.

"What are you waiting for, Lucas?" Gloominess spread through Joseph's eyes, his whole body exuding a cold aura. "Drag this madman out!"

Noticing that he had achieved his goal, Edgar sneered and left without any prompting from Lucas. The latter did not dare to linger either. He gently closed the door and hurriedly left the

Warzone.

Joseph wanted to take Chloe's hand but the latter shifted her body and dodged him.

He said helplessly, "That was all in the past. Just let it go."

"But Xavia is still in our lives right now. She's not the past."

Chloe was irritated by the fact that Xavia would appear from time to time. She felt that Noah was right. A love affair should only concern two people, so why was there a third party?

“She’ll become part of the past once she has given birth to the child.”

Chloe stared straight at him. “Will her child become a part of the past too?”

“We’ve already reached a consensus on that. Don’t bring the child into the problem.”

“Did

you never stop to think that Xavia will come to mind when I see the child she births?”

Annoyance dawned on Joseph’s face. He should have gone with Chloe to Docwood for the advertisement shoot. This mess would never have happened then.

He lit a cigarette, and his handsome face could be vaguely seen through the smoke. Chloe could not discern his expression.

They looked at each other but had nothing to say.

Suddenly, a sense of disgust hit Chloe. Though she tried her best to suppress it, she knew she would never be able to tolerate this child. She yearned to be with Joseph forever and to stay with him during his most difficult times. If everything broke down and he became poor and powerless, she would still accept him, but she could not accept him having a child with another woman.

“You’re hungry, aren’t you? What would you like to eat? I’ll have Lucas get us some.” Joseph broke the silence.

“What’s going on between you and Grandpa? Is it some kind of act?” Chloe ignored his question and raised her doubts instead.

After a pause, he said calmly, “I can’t tell you about it, and I hope that you won’t meddle in it

either. I can handle it on my own.”

Chloe took a deep breath. “Why can’t you tell me?”

“There are too many unknown dangers.”

“Okay, I’ll talk about something else then. What that man said, was it true?”

If Gabriel had not exposed Xavia, Joseph might be treating her much better right now. Maybe Chloe would not even be in the picture.

It was reasonable. The image and temper Xavia crafted were in line with the standards of first love men yearned for.

Joseph became slightly impatient. “That happened a few years ago. You have an ex too. Even if I have a child with Xavia, you’re the woman I love.”

Chloe laughed. “So do I have to thank you for that?”

“Can you please stop messing around?” Joseph rubbed his temples in deep frustration.

“Am I? Is it messing around when I ask you about one thing?” Her face flushed from anger. You’re the guilty one here. You can’t condemn me and say that I’m messing around. Was sleeping with another woman the right thing for you to do?”

She brought up the past endlessly. It was not like he had done something wrong now.

“Joseph, you’re a fucking bastard!” Chloe could no longer take it, running out the door and slamming it shut behind her.

The door clanged against the frame loudly as if it was the effects of an earthquake. Joseph’s lips twitched, noticing for the first time how strong she was.

Lucas came in with a cup of green tea. “Sir, please have some tea to soothe your nerves. I’m sure Ms. Chloe hasn’t gone far.”

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Score 9.5

Chapter 503 Hazel Cottrell

The deep crease between Joseph's brows slowly smoothed out. He picked up the cup of tea and gulped it down.

"Where did she go?"

Lucas pointed at the back door fire escape.

Joseph nodded before hurriedly going after her.

Shaking his head helplessly, Lucas felt that Joseph should be so tough since he should be coaxing her.

When Joseph reached the back door, Chloe was nowhere to be found. He frowned and decided to call her.

"Mr. Joseph."

He suddenly heard a gentle voice that sounded shy and surprised. He turned around and saw Hazel standing in front of him, her white T-shirt and pleated skirt setting off her pureness.

Joseph narrowed his eyes. "What are you doing here?"

Hazel grasped the hem of her shirt and asked anxiously, "Didn't my father come to you?"

"Yes, he just left."

"I'm sorry, Mr. Joseph. Please allow me to say sorry on his behalf." Her bow was sincere as she

expressed her apology.

"It's fine as long as you stop him from making a scene here again," Joseph stated emotionlessly, his face devoid of expression.

Hazel bit her lip and said bitterly, "Okay, I'll try my best."

"Is there anything else?" Joseph raised his arm to check the time.

"Sir... I'm not Preston's mistress. My father was talking nonsense."

She hesitated for a long time before abruptly blurting this out. Her tone sounded urgent too.

Joseph raised his brows in silence.

“I was unwilling to be his mistress, so he fired me.” When Hazel brought up that melancholic topic, she shed tears. “Sir, I’m not that kind of person.”

Joseph was surprised.

Seeing that, she hurriedly added, “I was drunk during the Whitman Group annual party three years ago. Preston then took me to a hotel. While he was taking a bath, I slipped away. It isn’t

what

you think.”

“Do you

think I’d believe you?” Joseph shot her a mocking glare. “Why would Preston give

your father another five points of interest for no reason?”

“No, that’s not true. My father secretly snapped a photo of Preston taking me to the hotel and threatened to tell Octavia about it if he didn’t give my father more interest.”

“Oh,” Joseph replied indifferently.

Hazel questioned carefully, “Sir, will you forgive me?”

“This concerns you and Preston. You don’t have to seek my forgiveness.”

Hazel’s expression stiffened before she whispered, “I don’t want you to see me as that kind of

woman.”

“Okay, you’re not.” Joseph’s answer was rather perfunctory. “I’m busy. Bye.”

“All right, I’ll leave now. There are many reporters outside, so be careful.”

Hazel's frown turned into a smile as she walked beside him. When she was almost at the door, she slipped and screamed as she fell forward.

Joseph instinctively extended his arms to support her.

Hazel smiled gently at him as fear lingered in her heart. "Thank you."

"What the hell are you two doing?"

Chloe was standing at the back door with two portions of takeout in her hands. With her fists clenched tightly, she glued her gaze on them.

Feeling horrified, Hazel quickly backed away from Joseph.

Joseph found himself in a predicament. He patiently offered Chloe an explanation. "She nearly fell, and I was just helping her."

"Yes, this isn't what it looks like."

The corridor was dimly lit and Chloe could not see Hazel's face earlier, but now she saw the latter's face. Her blood ran cold as unprecedented wrath hit her. Even her voice turned shaky.

"What's your name?"

Hazel became confused. "Me?"

"Yes."

"Hazel Cottrell."

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Chapter 504 Dude, You're Being Sued

Chloe closed her eyes. She then looked up at Hazel after a flash of understanding, her eyes ice- cold. "Your father left, and then you came. What the hell do you two want? Are you done here?"

Hazel was frightened, so she explained timidly, "I'm here to explain. There's nothing else."

“Are you here to explain or to get close to Joseph? I’m sure you know your own intentions.”

Hazel was not a virtuous woman since she was entangled with a married man like Preston.

Joseph was hit by a wave of displeasure. “Watch your tongue.”

“Are you feeling sorry for her?” Chloe did not hide the sarcasm in her voice.

“Chloe...” he said her name slowly as anger and helplessness engulfed him. She was the only woman he cared about, but she still doubted him.

“Please don’t fight because of me. I’ll leave now,” Hazel hurriedly chimed in.

“Go, and don’t just say that for show. Don’t be trying to fish for his compassion.” With her arms over her chest, Chloe shot Hazel a fierce glare as if she had seen through the latter’s thoughts.

The blood drained out of Hazel’s face. She lowered her head and said to Joseph, “Bye, Mr. Joseph.”

With tightly pursed lips, Joseph replied lightly.

After Hazel left, Joseph looked at Chloe, who was rooted to the spot. “Are you satisfied now?”

Chloe erupted in anger. “Far from it!”

“What more do you want?”

“What are you trying to say?” Her anger reached a boiling point as she burst into a peal of laughter. “My husband was hugging another woman. Is it out of the line for me to rebuke her?”

“I wasn’t hugging her. I was just supporting her to keep her from falling. You’re making a fuss out of nothing.”

Joseph failed to see the seriousness of the issue and felt that Chloe was being unreasonable.

The plastic bag of the takeouts cut into Chloe’s palms. She felt that she was too soft-hearted. She had managed to quell her anger after leaving. After

some thought, she figured that he might not have eaten after being busy the whole day, so she got takeout for him while passing by a restaurant.

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And what did she get in the end?

She saw him being lovey-dovey with Xavia's substitute.

Joseph strode toward Chloe and towered before her. When he noticed what was in her hands, his eyes lit up. He took them and asked, "Did you get this for me?"

"Yes, I got it for you and Hazel. I'm afraid you guys would be starving after being lovey-dovey for a long time."

Chloe had no intention of letting him off the hook as her anger grew.

"That's enough. I've been patiently coaxing you for such a long time. What the hell do you want from me?"

As they locked gazes with each other, the frustration in Joseph's eyes was clear, causing Chloe to flip out. "Oh, thank you so much for coaxing me. Should I thank you humbly and kneel before you?"

Her clap back left Joseph speechless. He had never been so humble with any woman. As his dignity shattered, reluctance overcame him, and his charming face sank.

"Stop. Don't make me mad."

Chloe felt like a fool. She stuffed the takeouts into his hands.

"You fucking bastard!"

Before he could react, she stormed away.

Holding the warm takeouts, Joseph was stunned. His anger soon subsided and he wondered if

he had been too harsh.

When Lucas saw Joseph come back alone, he touched his face. He felt like asking but was not bold enough.

After Joseph finished his meal, he was no longer angry. He glanced at the GPS and found that Chloe had driven back to her apartment. He slipped on his blazer and said to Lucas, "Go home. Everything's done for the day."

But as soon as he made that statement, Samuel arrived.

"Dude, you're being sued. Jonathan and his family are getting a lawyer to sue you."

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Chapter 505 Joseph the Scumbag

Joseph tilted his head, his face expressionless and his gaze indifferent. "Did they go to you for the lawsuit?"

Samuel was Joseph's high school classmate. After Joseph went abroad to establish his business, the Whitmans thought that he and Samuel had ceased contacting each other.

"Of course not. I'm too expensive for them to hire." Samuel looked proud but a look of disdain engulfed him soon after. "Jonathan hired the second best-that lawyer who is always one level weaker than me."

In the law industry, Samuel sat in the top spot while Victor Cottrell was in second.

Joseph tilted his head and snorted. "Victor Cottrell?"

"Right on the money."

"His father came here to make a scene today."

Samuel reacted. "So, this family knows Preston? Are they on the same boat?"

“Yes, they’re the ones who will sink or swim together.”

Samuel poured a glass of water and swiftly gulped it down. “What’s your plan?”

Joseph shot his friend with a cold, scornful glare. “Can’t you handle it?”

“Yes, I can, but I’m afraid that Mr. Harold will pester you about this.”

After all, they were Harold’s descendants. If his grandson and son got into a fight, he would suffer the most given that he was the grandfather as well as the father.

“What’s Preston trying to sue me with?”

“Ungratefulness and disloyalty. He’s even claiming that you’re occupying family assets.”

Joseph sounded rather absent-minded. “I look forward to this lawsuit.”

“Aren’t you afraid of becoming a target of scorn?” Samuel clicked his tongue. “The Whitmans. are the top aristocratic family in Docwood. It’d be humiliating to bring such a mess to court.”

Ordinary people cared about their prestige and image, let alone a rich aristocratic family like the Whitmans. Of course, this sort of family valued their reputation very much.

“Meet with Tavia when you have the time,” Joseph suggested.

“Why? Do you want her to stop Preston?”

A malicious sneer appeared on Joseph’s handsome face. “Her husband cheated on her, and she has the right to know.”

Bewilderment got the better of Samuel. “Who’s Preston’s mistress?”

Octavia had gotten pregnant with Preston’s child before their marriage, and it had created quite an uproar. They claimed that what they had was true love, but after two decades, that statement had been refuted-maybe even earlier.

There were too few men in this world who had never cheated on their significant others.

“Hazel, Victor’s younger sister.”

Lucas became confused. “But didn’t Hazel just say that she didn’t sleep with Preston?”

“It’s likely that he didn’t manage to seal the deal, but that doesn’t mean he didn’t want to,” Joseph stated coldly. There was no difference in either case.

Samuel’s eyes went wide. He never expected Victor’s family to be such a mess. “Let’s go to a cafe and sit down to discuss this at length.” With this piece of gossip in hand, he felt that he could criticize Victor the next time they met.

“I’m busy. Just do as you see fit. I need to go home to my wife.”

Samuel watched as Joseph walked away and left. He then rubbed his eyes forcefully.

“Is that the same man who holds women in disdain? He’s now a man who’s afraid of his wife.”

Joseph was heading home at five o’clock in the evening. He clearly valued his woman more than his friends.

Lucas whispered, “The thing is, he bickered with Ms. Chloe earlier. He tried coaxing her all afternoon but failed.”

Samuel was rendered speechless.

Even pigs might even fly now. Joseph had learned how to coax people and was now no longer an insensible man. He had turned over a new leaf to become a warm, considerate person.

Chloe rushed home in a fit of anger. She wanted to grab a bite, but after going around for a day, she was exhausted. Lying in bed, she unconsciously dozed off.

After sleeping for three hours, she woke up. The sky had darkened, so the whole room was in shadow. She picked up her phone, but Joseph had not called or texted her.

She had given him both portions of takeout and was starving now, and it was normal for pregnant ladies to be emotional.

Feeling aggrieved, her eyes turned red. She scolded angrily, “You’re a fucking scumbag, Joseph!”

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Chapter 506 Men Can Utilize Their Sexual Charms Too

“Are you badmouthing me?”

The bedroom door abruptly swung open, revealing a tall and handsome man exuding an air of dignity and aloofness. However, the sight of him holding a ladle in his hand seemed oddly endearing, creating a delightful contrast.

Chloe’s almond-shaped eyes widened as she stared at him, momentarily taken aback. “When did you get here?”

“An hour ago.”

“Are you a ghost? How did you enter my apartment without making a sound?!”

Joseph adopted an innocent expression. “I saw you sleeping so peacefully, and I didn’t want to disturb you. I never realized you’re such a deep sleeper.”

A flicker of emotion passed through Chloe’s eyes. “I’m exhausted today.”

Joseph felt his heart melt. Lately, he had been consumed by numerous responsibilities, leaving him with little time to be with her. And today, he had even upset her.

“I’ve prepared some dishes. Come out and eat.”

Chloe did not refuse as she was famished. She took a seat at the table while Joseph brought out the meticulously prepared dishes one by one-five visually stunning plates emitting irresistible aromas. The scent alone hinted at their deliciousness.

Chloe’s mouth watered as she picked up her cutlery and indulged in a bite of the steak. The meat was tender, succulent, and infused with a delightful aroma, devoid of any excess grease. She found herself unable to resist, taking bite after bite, unable to satiate her appetite.

They say the way to a man's heart was through his stomach, but that saying only held weight if the man in question lacked culinary skills.

Joseph leaned in, resting his chin on his hand, and said with gentle affection, "Slow down. No one's going to snatch it away from you." As he uttered those words, he also served her a comforting bowl of chowder, mindful of her well-being and worried she might choke.

Chloe was a little embarrassed. In the past, she had been the one caring for him, and now the roles were reversed, which felt strange. However, the moment this thought emerged, she vigorously shook her head. "No, there's nothing peculiar about it. Even if it feels that way, I must adapt! I refuse to be treated as a commodity."

Chloe completed her bedtime routine and settled into bed. Joseph did the same, lying down beside her. She gently protested as her expression stiffened, "Get off the bed. I never agreed to you staying over."

"After working tirelessly for you all night, aren't you going to offer any form of compensation?" Joseph's broad hand firmly wrapped around her slender waist, pausing momentarily. "Hmm, you seem to have gained a bit of weight."

There appeared to be a slight increase in the size of Chloe's tummy.

In the dim light, a hint of panic flickered across her face as she gently pushed away the hand on her waist. "You're the one who gained weight."

"I exercise every day and never put on weight. If you don't believe me, feel for yourself." Joseph grasped her hand and guided it to his abdominal muscles. They were firm and well-

defined.

A blush crept onto Chloe's cheeks as she felt the warmth radiating from Joseph's skin. His flirting skills were undoubtedly improving.

Joseph noticed her unusual reaction and a sense of delight washed over him. He held her hand, urging her to explore his body with her touch.

Before coming to her apartment, he had dialed Nathan's number and sought advice on seduction tips. Nathan stated that women could utilize their sexual charms and that men could do the same. Initially, Joseph dismissed the idea,

but upon reflection, he realized it was his wife, not someone else, so he rid himself of all reservations.

“Enough.” Chloe couldn’t bear it any longer and abruptly turned around, presenting him with her back. “If you want to sleep, then sleep. Otherwise, get out.”

A mischievous smirk tugged at the corner of Joseph’s lips. “Aren’t you angry anymore?”

“I am,” she replied bluntly.

“Then how can we move past this?”

He could not quite comprehend the intricacies of a woman’s thought process. After all, he had never done anything with Hazel, so why was Chloe so upset?

“I expect you to support me unconditionally and stand by my side if we ever face a similar situation in the future. Even if I call the other person a piece of shit, I want you to agree and back me up,” Chloe asserted.

Joseph’s brows furrowed. “There’s no need for that.”

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Chapter 507 Adding Fuel to the Fire

Chloe’s eyes turned red as she heard his response and a surge of emotions overwhelmed her. Tears welled up in her eyes, cascading down her cheeks with a gentle pitter-patter sound. Her once radiant and delicate face now resembled a rain-soaked lotus flower, evoking a sense of pity and melancholy. Her appearance alone had the power to melt anyone’s heart.

Even if Joseph were to comply with her request, she knew deep down that she could not expect him to call Hazel a piece of shit. All she wanted was a clear and unwavering stance from him. Frustration and hurt surged within her, and she shouted at him, “Get out! I don’t want to see you anymore!”

How could Joseph dare to leave her? He was taken aback by Chloe's outburst and tried to wipe away her tears, feeling flustered and confused. "I didn't hurt you or scold you. Why are you suddenly crying?"

Chloe forcefully pushed him away, her voice trembling with frustration. "You never stand up for me. You took Hazel's side. She's probably your real wife, so go find her."

"Okay, okay, I'll stand up for you. She's just a piece of shit, okay?" Joseph sighed, but deep down, he worried that such words would tarnish Chloe's grace and demeanor.

"It's too late for that!" Chloe exclaimed, her words laced with anguish. Without offering any further explanation, she pushed him out of the house. Her tears flowed from her eyes like a broken string of pearls, releasing all the pent-up unhappiness she had been carrying during this trying period.

Joseph had never encountered such a situation in his life. He raised the set of keys he was holding, but then ultimately lowered them, a feeling of helplessness etched on his handsome

face.

'Will that dumbo cry even more if I go back inside?' he pondered, his heart tightening. He gazed at the closed door for a moment, then made up his mind to turn around and look for

Nathan.

The autumn night in Aesper was desolate, contrasting with the lively and bustling atmosphere of the bar, creating a stark contrast between the two worlds.

After hearing the entire story, Nathan burst into laughter. "Hahaha, so you spent the entire night taking care of her and thought you were about to reconcile, but it all fell apart because of one sentence," he remarked.

Joseph's face darkened, his gaze sharpening like a knife as he fixed his eyes on Nathan. "Enough with the nonsense," he retorted.

"Ahem, ahem..." Nathan cleared his throat nervously, quickly getting back on track. "Tell me,

what do you think of Hazel?"

"Nothing in particular."

Three years ago, when Hazel came for an interview at the Whitman Group, Joseph noticed her immediately because of her resemblance to Xavia. He had been in a relationship with Xavia for several years, and though he did not love her, over time, he had inevitably developed some feelings for her. Back then, he was unaware of Xavia's true nature.

Hazel did not pass the interview but was given another chance when HR arranged for her to try a different position. That was the extent of their interaction.

At this point in time, Joseph had a clear understanding of his own heart, and the only person he loved was Chloe.

Nathan comforted him, "It's simple. Just do what Chloe wants."

Joseph furrowed his brow. "What do you mean?"

"Send Hazel a text and tell her she's a piece of shit."

Joseph was taken aback, lost for words.

Nathan set down his beer glass. "Give me your phone. I'll do it for you. Don't drag this out."

Joseph asked, "Isn't there any other way?"

"There are alternatives, but this method is the simplest and most effective," Nathan said earnestly, locking eyes with Joseph. "Don't tell me that Hazel actually brings Xavia to your mind and you're reluctant to do it."

Joseph sneered. "I feel more disgusted than anything."

"In that case, send the text."

Joseph's eyelid twitched violently. "Xavia is Xavia, and Hazel is Hazel. There's no need to attribute Xavia's mistakes to Hazel."

Nathan gave him a deep look. “No wonder Chloe is angry. I would be too if I were her.” Trying to reason with an angry woman was undoubtedly adding fuel to the fire.

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Chapter 508 Confronting Preston in the Bedroom With a Cleaver

Joseph could not understand. “Will sending this text actually make Chloe happy?”

“Absolutely, I guarantee it.”

“Then get me Hazel’s number. I don’t have it.”

Although it seemed unnecessary, he was willing to do it if it would make the dumba happy.

At 8 o’clock in the evening, Hazel received a message. As she read its contents, her face contorted in anger. She reassured herself, ‘Chloe must be using Joseph’s phone to send this! Joseph is a noble and cultured person. He would never utter such vulgar and indecent words.’

At this moment, Xavia learned that Hazel had gone to Fairlight to find Joseph. She delicately peeled off her face mask, revealing a sly smile as she softly chuckled, “She wants a piece of the action too?”

Vanya said, “Seems like it.”

“She’s overestimating herself. Even if I let her do as she pleases, she doesn’t hold a candle to Chloe.”

Hazel was a pawn that S had arranged for and deployed as bait three years ago. The purpose was to test Xavia’s position in Joseph’s heart and her suitability. She would be called into action only if she was deemed suitable.

Hazel was not a member of Duskfall and was only paid to play a role. Nevertheless, her reappearance now was quite intriguing.

Vanya observed the surroundings from the balcony through a pair of binoculars and said, "We can ignore Hazel and let her wander around in front of Chloe. After all, she's just portraying your presence."

"I think so too," Xavia replied, taking a seat in front of the dressing table. "It's getting late and I want to go to bed. You should head on back."

After a brief pause, a look of disgust crossed Xavia's face as she added, "Make sure to avoid that nosy old snoop's surveillance. Ugh, it's so annoying." Instead of monitoring her, it would be better if he just kicked the bucket already. Out of sight, out of mind, and much more convenient.

Vanya nodded, "Don't look for me tomorrow. I'm meeting that guy Noah to see if he's interested in cooperating."

"Okay. I also have to go for a prenatal check-up."

"T-31 days. Once the amniocentesis is done, Chloe can fuck off!"

As evening fell, Lucas delivered the damning evidence of Preston's affair to Octavia. The moment she laid eyes on the incriminating proof, a torrent of emotions surged within her, giving way to an uncontrollable rage. She rushed to the kitchen to grab a cleaver and stormed into the bedroom to confront Preston.

The night was destined to be a sleepless one.

Joseph woke

up in his villa the next morning, greeted by a phone call from Patrick "Mr. Joseph, it appears that Mr. Harold's condition has deteriorated. His spirits have been low, and he barely ate anything yesterday."

"Make sure that the doctors conduct a comprehensive examination. If there are no serious issues, bring him back to the family home. Don't let Preston and his family into the ward."

"But....Mr. Harold might feel sympathetic..."

Joseph let out a sigh and said softly, "Let him do as he pleases but make it clear that we won't provide any support or money. That's my bottom line."

"Understood. I'll convey the message to Mr. Harold."

After a quick wash-up, Joseph set out to find Chloe. At Oceanic Residence, a group of people who were out for some morning exercise were gathered together and discussing something animatedly.

“Talk to her respectfully. Why are you bullying a woman?”

“Yeah, be careful that we call the cops on you.”

“Why are you resorting to violence against a woman?”

“Let go of her!”

The crowd’s persuasion had no effect on Jonathan’s enraged state. On the contrary, their words further provoked him. He aggressively pulled at Chloe’s hair, causing her intense pain and nearly eliciting a scream from her.

“What do any of you know? This is the woman who ruined my family!”

If Chloe had not married into the family, Jonathan and his father could have continued on peacefully in the company. His parents could have enjoyed a good life without reaching the point of divorce. This despicable woman must have drugged Joseph and driven their entire family out, all in an attempt to seize the family fortune for herself.

Jojo and Coco’s Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Score 9.5

Chapter 509 Two Slaps for Jonathan

Chloe seethed with anger. “What does that have to do with me? Are you justifying your father’s infidelity?”

‘Jonathan doesn’t have the courage to confront Joseph, so he’s taking it out on me. What a coward!’

“It’s normal for men to have affairs. It’s not like they abandoned their family and children!”

‘Father had only made one mistake that every man in the world would make.’

Despite the pain from her scalp being pulled, Chloe fought to raise her head. With defiance, she spat in Jonathan’s face. “Tch! You make me sick!”

Since when was the minimum standard for a marriage that a man did not abandon his family considered the greatest act of kindness? How laughable.

Jonathan's body tensed with anger. With a fierce and ferocious expression, he raised his hand, intending to strike.

Chloe closed her eyes in fear, anticipating the blow.

However, just in the nick of time, a cup of scalding hot coffee flew out from the crowd, hitting Jonathan's head with precise aim. He was scalded and hastily retreated to the side, his face contorting in pain as he held the burned area and wailed.

Chloe glanced at Noah, who had appeared among the crowd. Feeling slightly dazed, she asked, "Did you throw that?"

Noah handed her a basket of croissants. "Stay behind me."

"No, let's call Joseph and ask him to come deal with Jonathan."

In her eyes, Noah was nothing more than a gentle, younger-brother-like figure who would do his best to subdue Jonathan. She feared that he might get hurt in the process.

Noah turned around, a warm smile on his face as he reassured her, "I know Taekwondo. I'm pretty skilled and can protect you."

"Save your protection for someone else." A chilling voice suddenly pierced through, and Joseph pushed his way through the crowd, his gaze icy as he locked eyes with Noah.

Noah did not appear too surprised by Joseph's sudden arrival and gave him an ambiguous smile. "If you can handle your little cousin properly, I would want nothing of this."

Joseph averted his gaze and focused on the deranged Jonathan, whose face was now red from the scalding coffee and contorted from the pain.

As Joseph approached, Jonathan's momentum faltered, and he stubbornly claimed, "They

attacked me first!"

Rubbing her scalp, Chloe cursed, "I was heading downstairs to throw out the trash, and you came out of nowhere to insult and humiliate me. Is it amusing to tell blatant lies?"

Jonathan retorted viciously, "You deserve it!"

"You're crazy!"

Was he accusing her simply because he felt inadequate?

"Apologize." Joseph's voice turned cold as he commanded Jonathan.

Jonathan stubbornly refused. "Why? Did this bitch manage to brainwash you? Grandpa ended up in the hospital because of you. Pull your head out of the clouds. How could she compare to Xavia?"

Joseph's eyes darkened, and he raised his hand to slap Jonathan.

Smack!

The impact sent Jonathan staggering backward, nearly causing him to lose his balance. One side of his face quickly swelled, displaying visible redness and five distinct finger marks.

Jonathan was stunned. "You hit me in front of so many people over a woman?"

Smack!

Remaining silent, Joseph swung his hand once more. Now, both sides of Jonathan's face were adorned with finger marks, evenly distributed.

Joseph's face displayed no emotion, yet it exuded a chilling and sinister quality. "Do you believe that merely having the name 'Whitman' will shield you from any consequences?"

Jonathan's face throbbed with excruciating pain, akin to the searing sensation of chili peppers being rubbed on his skin. The agony rendered him speechless, leaving him to stare blankly at Joseph.

"If

you ever dare to lay a finger on Chloe again, you won't get away after just two slaps," Joseph warned, his gaze cold and menacing. He then turned and walked toward the car with Chloe, leaving with a sense of grandeur.

Chloe glanced back at Noah, who remained standing there, concerned that Jonathan might seek revenge on him after they departed. "Noah's still there. If we're going to leave, let's take him with us."

Jojo and Coco's Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Score 9.5

Chapter 510 Noah's Premeditated Plan

Joseph paid no heed to her words as if he were deaf and stomped on the accelerator.

Chloe exclaimed, "Hey, why are you speeding up?"

Joseph shot back, "Why was Noah at Oceanic Residence wearing pajamas?"

"He's studying at a nearby university and stays there for convenience."

For a moment, Joseph felt the urge to punch the steering wheel. He gritted his teeth and asked, "When did he move in?"

"I don't know. Probably around the same time as me."

The air around Joseph turned oppressively dark, and the knuckles of his hand on the steering wheel whitened from the tension. "You're moving back to the villa today."

"Why?"

"Noah has ulterior motives toward you."

Chloe chuckled helplessly and asked, "Where's your evidence?"

"Isn't it suspicious that he chose to live in the same apartment as you?"

"He moved there to pursue his postgraduate studies. I don't have the charm to control which university he attends."

Joseph asserted confidently, “He had a premeditated plan and made careful preparations.”

“Forget it. I can’t reason with you!” Chloe grew frustrated and turned her face toward the window, feeling powerless.

Joseph glanced at her through the corner of his eye and pondered for a moment before breaking the silence. “I’ve sent a text to Hazel as you requested.”

Chloe’s eyebrows twitched, recalling the screenshot Joseph sent her this morning. Apologies should be timely. If he had done that decisively last night, both sides would have been pleased. But now, after a whole night had passed, Chloe was no longer angry and felt that his actions had been unnecessary.

Joseph noticed her lack of response and felt perplexed. He could not understand why she was still unhappy.

On their way to the Johnson Group, Chloe was lost in her thoughts. As they passed Fairlight, her attention was caught by a figure swiftly passing outside the window. Her spirit jolted. “Stop the car.”

“Why?” Joseph was puzzled.

“I saw Hazel entering Fairlight.”

“What’s she doing at the office?”

“And who should I ask for the answer? It’s not like it’s my company,” Chloe hinted with a meaningful look.

Joseph was at a loss for words in response to her question.

The car came to a halt, and Chloe wasted no time rushing toward the direction Hazel had gone. True to their suspicions, she had indeed entered Fairlight. Joseph and Chloe exchanged glances, their faces filled with doubt. They observed her holding a folder and engaging in conversation with the receptionist. After a brief exchange, the receptionist instructed her to wait in the lounge area.

Soon, someone from the HR department came downstairs to receive her. It became evident that Hazel had successfully passed an interview and secured a position at Fairlight.

Chloe took a deep breath, lifted her head, and locked her gaze on Joseph, eager to see how he would handle the situation.

Joseph approached and intercepted the HR executive. "Leslie, what's going on here?"

The executive appeared taken aback by Joseph's appearance. "Mr. Joseph..."

"Did you not understand my question?"

"Oh! I just came downstairs to accompany the new employee for the onboarding procedure.

have any specific instructions, sir?"

Do you

Joseph's brows furrowed, and his gaze fixated on Hazel. "So, you intend to work here?"

Hazel, unaware of Chloe's presence behind her, appeared somewhat coy. "Um, Mr. Joseph, please rest assured that my father and brother do not speak for me. I'm determined to work hard and contribute to Fairlight's success."

"No need for that. Find another company."

Hazel's face turned pale and tears welled up in her eyes. "Did I do something to upset you?"

"No."

"Then why-"

"There's no need for you to know that," Joseph replied. He then turned to the HR executive and instructed, "Cancel the onboarding process. She can proceed with the resignation procedure."

Jojo and Coco's Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Score 9.5