

Jojo and Coco's Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Chapter 551 Natalie and Noah's Arranged Marriage

The man had no intention of letting the director go.

As the director attempted to flee, the man grabbed him by the coat, covered his mouth, and dragged him into the fire escape. Encumbered by age and frailty, the director could not contend with the man's strength and was mercilessly dragged to the rooftop. Following a moment of shock and a piercing scream, the director crashed heavily to the ground and died.

Later that evening, an announcement circulated, declaring that the director had leaped from the building due to the immense pressure of life. Spencer read the announcement, feeling fear, self-blame, and unease flooding him.

'Will I be the next to die? Should I confess to Joseph? Maybe he'll forgive me and let me go.... No, no, it can't possibly be my turn. I've always been obedient. My wife and children are still in their hands... I can't back down.'

Three days later, Chloe returned to the country. Upon touchdown, she texted Joseph.

[The plane has landed and I'll be out in about ten minutes.]

She grabbed her luggage and boarded the shuttle bus. Upon exiting the airport, she instantly spotted Joseph. His towering height of 1.8 meters made him stand out from the crowd, while his handsome features exuded a frosty allure. When his gaze met hers, it instantly softened, and the rigid aura around him eased slightly. His finely sculpted eyebrows and captivating eyes made him the center of attention, drawing glances from women passing by.

Chloe and Joseph had missed each other dearly after not meeting for about a month.

Joseph opened his arms, his lips curling into an enchanting smile as he said, "Come here and let me hold you."

Chloe was someone who loved a good-looking man. She felt her heart race and could not hide her excitement. She pushed her luggage to Abigail and threw herself into his arms.

Joseph embraced her tightly, his voice carrying a magnetic huskiness as he asked, "Did you miss me?"

Chloe raised her head, her eyes clear as she met his gaze. "I did. And what about you? Did you miss me too?"

"No," Joseph said, teasing her.

Upon hearing his response, Chloe's fair and delicate face wrinkled, and she reached out to pinch the flesh on his waist. "What did you say?"

"I meant that..." Joseph leaned in, closing the distance between them while fixing his intense gaze on her, In a voice that could drown someone, he softly murmured, "I missed you very very much. Will you make it up to me tonight?"

Chloe blinked, her soft earlobes turning red as she stuttered, "N-No! I-I will not be making up for anything!"

It had been over three months since they had been intimate, and it was only natural for a man to feel such desires. However, she could not make it up to him. The first trimester had passed and as long as both parties were careful, they could do the deed, but Joseph did not know that she was pregnant. He appeared refined and composed on the surface, but he was a beast between the sheets-unrestrained and insatiable.

Joseph thought Chloe was joking and did not take her seriously. He chuckled and pulled her into his embrace, leading her to the car. Gazing at their intertwined hands, a certain young man's eyes burned with a myriad of emotions.

The driver Noah's luggage and politely said, "Sir, Mr. Desmond is waiting for you at home. Let's head back quickly."

"Why is he waiting for me?"

"To arrange a meeting between you and Ms. Natalie."

Noah stopped in his tracks, his eyes fixed pointedly on the driver.

The driver felt uneasy under Noah's gaze and said, "It wasn't my idea, sir..."

"Is she at the house?"

“Yes...”

“Let’s go.”

He could not avoid the matter of the arranged marriage. Since he had to face it sooner or later,

it was better to get there early and resolve it as soon as possible.

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Score 9.5

Chapter 552 His Kiss Was Sudden and Passionate, Startling Her

Within the Sullivan Estate, Natalie was adorned in an elaborate princess gown and impeccable makeup as she sat composedly before Desmond. She chose her words carefully, ensuring the conversation remained on appropriate topics.

Desmond was satisfied with her. If the Walkers and Sullivans were to form an alliance, he would accept it. The two children were of similar age and would be well-matched among their peers. He currently could not find a more suitable candidate than Natalie.

“Sir, Mr. Noah has returned,” the butler whispered in Desmond’s ear.

“Okay, send him in.”

Noah looked at the people before him, a gentle smile on his face as always. “I’m sorry I’m late. I just got back from my flight. Thank you for waiting.”

“No problem,” Oscar Walker replied with a smile. “We arrived not long ago ourselves. This is my daughter, Natalie.”

“Hello,” Natalie greeted Noah politely as she boldly assessed him with her eyes. Unlike those playboys, he had a clean look and a good vibe.

Noah nodded at her. “Hello.”

“Take Naty to the vineyard for a stroll, Noah. The adults would like to discuss some matters, and you two will probably get bored. Go and have fun,” Desmond said, creating an opportunity for them to be alone.

Noah did not refuse and complied with Desmond's suggestion, taking Natalie to the backyard. They walked side by side, maintaining a polite distance between them. The vineyard was filled with a fragrant aroma, and there were small baskets in the corners to facilitate easy picking.

Noah glanced at Natalie and asked calmly, "What do you think of me?"

"Huh?" Natalie blushed, and she said embarrassingly, "You're so direct... I mean, you seem like a shy young man based on your appearance."

"I think we should make things clear before it's too late."

"You're right. But we barely know each other. Don't you think it's too early..."

Noah chuckled and said calmly, "I think you've misunderstood. What I meant was that we don't actually have to spend time together. Since it's the elders who want this union, we can find a reason to get by without actually getting close."

Natalie was taken aback. "Are you suggesting I tell my dad we aren't compatible?"

"I can tell my grandfather the same."

Natalie furrowed her brow. "I don't want to deceive anyone, and I think we should genuinely spend some time together before making any decisions. My first impression of you is decent enough."

With his appealing appearance and pleasant personality, coupled with the fact that he was the sole heir of the Sullivan family, Noah had the advantage of not having to compete for inheritance like in other families. Marrying him would make her life within the family estate significantly more straightforward and uncomplicated.

"I'm sorry," Noah said apologetically as he sighed. "I'm not interested in a romantic relationship at the moment. My studies and work consume a lot of my energy. I hope you'll find someone better. As for our respective elders, we can simply tell them that we aren't compatible."

Their relationship ended before it could even start.

Natalie was dumbfounded. She never expected to be rejected on her first blind date. Perhaps it was Noah's considerate attitude, but she did not feel uncomfortable or angry.

Having only one heir in the family had its advantages: there was no competition for inheritance. But on the flip side, it meant that the sole heir carried a tremendous burden.

Always having a line of suitors, Natalie was not put off and agreed with Noah. Apart from the setback she had experienced with Joseph, this was the second failed love attempt of her life.

On their way home, Oscar asked Natalie how her conversation with Noah went.

"We're not compatible."

"What makes you say that?"

"He's too busy. He has to study and manage his family business, leaving no time for me."

"What do you think of him as a person then?"

"He's all right. His personality seems good," Natalie said honestly, refraining from saying anything negative about Noah despite his rejection.

Her father nodded with a hint of understanding, taking it as his daughter not actually rejecting the idea of getting to know Noah.

Joseph and Chloe had a candlelit dinner at home.

During the meal, Joseph indulged in a cabernet. Chloe was suddenly struck with an idea and poured him glass after glass. She thought that if he got drunk, he would not think about touching her.

To her surprise, Joseph had a high alcohol tolerance. Although he was slightly intoxicated, it

did not affect his actions. When Chloe tried to push him away, he silenced her with a kiss.

It was sudden and passionate, startling her. She became defenseless and collapsed weakly into his embrace. Joseph freed his hands, intending to push aside her nightgown.

“Ugh, no...” Chloe protested as she covered her chest with both hands.

Overwhelmed by the intensity of the kiss, her eyes turned slightly red, making her look like a cornered rabbit. Meanwhile, Joseph transformed into a ravenous wolf, longing to devour the helpless little rabbit.

“Aren’t you the one who said you missed me? Is this how you express it?” His eyes glistened with desire and a hint of disappointment.

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Score 9.5

Chapter 553 Joseph Notices Something Is Amiss

Chloe’s heart melted.

“Turn off the lights,” she said.

“Okay,” Joseph got up and flipped the switch, throwing the room into darkness.

As he advanced on her, Chloe whimpered softly, “Be gentle...”

Droplets of sweat trickled down Joseph’s forehead, sliding down his face, and finally landing on Chloe’s collarbone. His voice was hoarse and filled with desire as he replied, “Okay.”

Men were creatures of desire in bed, driven only by their instincts, especially after consuming

alcohol.

Joseph failed to notice anything unusual. He did try to be gentle, but even a light touch kindled a passionate flame within him, not to mention that they had been separated for nearly a month. They indulged in their desire for a long time, and it was not until the bed sheets were soaked that they were finally depleted of their strength and drifted off to sleep.

The next day, Chloe woke up feeling drained. Joseph felt distressed upon seeing her and insisted she took a few days off to rest, and she wholeheartedly agreed. There was not much happening at the Johnson Group that required her attention, so she decided to take a short break from work.

Initially, Joseph had planned to finish work early and take Chloe to watch a horror movie. Since he had no interest in romantic films, a horror movie seemed like a good choice. However, his plan was thwarted when the police informed him that Preston had been severely beaten by other inmates and was in a state of shock.

Joseph showed no concern for the matter, so the police had no choice but to inform Octavia and Jonathan.

Upon seeing Preston's battered and bruised state and the drastic weight loss he had experienced in just a few days, Octavia rushed to Harold, hoping that he would get Preston out of prison. Unaware of the misdeeds Preston had orchestrated, Harold fainted when Octavia exposed everything upon her visit.

Joseph had no choice but to return to the family home.

Harold resolutely announced that he would be disowning Preston. Joseph had no objections and began drafting agreements with a lawyer while taking care of Harold.

Joseph was occupied with these matters for three consecutive days. On the fourth evening, he finally returned home. Chloe was already asleep, and not wanting to disturb her, he went to the guest room.

The next day, Chloe woke up and glanced in the mirror. To her dismay, the hickey marks on

her neck from a few days ago had not faded as she had hoped. With her fair skin, it was particularly noticeable in bright light.

"Joseph Whitman!" Chloe roared angrily as she pointed at her neck. "Look at what you've done. This isn't a good look."

“If it bothers you so much, you can do it to me as well,” Joseph said nonchalantly as he leisurely did up his tie, his eyes brimming with a playful glint.

Chloe huffed in annoyance. “Forget it. Don’t try to take advantage of me in every possible way.

Joseph finished dressing and walked toward her, embracing her from behind. But in the next moment, his brows furrowed as he focused on her waist. He noticed that something was amiss.

Over the past few nights, she had been preventing him from touching her belly, even demanding that he be gentle.

Chloe’s heart skipped a beat, and she pushed him away before running into the bathroom. “I need to wash up. You should get to work. Don’t wait for me. I’ll get a cab.”

Joseph’s gaze deepened, and he reached out to open the bathroom door. At this moment, Lucas arrived and asked, “Are you ready, sir? We should leave now. The meeting starts in half

an hour.”

Glancing at the time and contemplating for a few seconds, Joseph said through the closed bathroom door, “Don’t wander off today. I’ll find you after work.”

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Score 9.5

Chapter 554 Xavia’s Kid Is Intellectually Challenged

Chloe ignored him and continued brushing her teeth, feeling guilty inside.

When Vanya received a call from Spencer, she was stunned.

“Are you sure?”

“Yes, Ms. Xavia’s baby carries chromosomal defects. They may experience stunted growth.”

Vanya was speechless. This would mean that the child may be intellectually challenged.

“What about Chloe’s baby? Is that baby okay?”

“Ms. Chloe’s baby is fine, just slightly undernourished.”

“You know what to do, right?” Vanya threatened.

“Yes, yes...” Spencer trembled with fear and his voice quivered. “I’ll keep it a secret and not disclose this information to anyone.”

“Attaboy,” praised Vanya.

“May I see my wife and kid?”

“Don’t push your luck. Once Harold is dead, I’ll set them free.”

Spencer gritted his teeth and fell silent.

Upon learning that her child might have an intellectual disability, Xavia froze in disbelief.’

How could I, someone with such high intelligence, produce an intellectually challenged child? Those incompetent doctors must have made a mistake!”

She was a top scorer during her student life and was a renowned violinist throughout the country. This was an insult to her.

“We can’t keep this child,” Vanya said decisively, her eyes cold and calculating. “But we can’t perform an abortion now. You have to give birth to the kid and let Chloe take over.”

Xavia calmed down and suddenly found the idea intriguing. “So that bitch’s kid is going to call me mother?”

“Yes.”

Previously, they had considered swapping Chloe’s kid for Xavia’s, but the plan had never been finalized. Firstly, it was difficult and highly risky. Secondly, Otto did not want Joseph to have his own kid. Raising another man’s child while his wife cheated on him—that was the ultimate

revenge.

“Joseph will learn about the results of the amniocentesis soon. Get ready and dress up to meet him,” she said.

Xavia nodded and took out a face mask, intending to apply simple makeup. She could not wait

to see Joseph.

Sure enough, at four in the afternoon, Joseph received a call from the hospital. They notified him about collecting the amniocentesis report. His grip on the phones tightened as he looked

at Lucas.

“Go and get it.”

Lucas nodded solemnly. After witnessing everything that Joseph and Chloe had been through, Lucas could not help but have a malicious thought. If only Xavia would suffer a miscarriage, Joseph would not have to deal with the complications and Chloe would not have to suffer the bitterness of being a stepmother. They could live peacefully without all these troublesome issues.

Of course, Lucas was just thinking about it. He knew he could not engage in illegal and sinful

acts.

At the same time, Joseph sent Chloe a message, asking her to come and look at the report with him. She arrived at Fairlight at the same time Lucas got back. When she saw the folder in his hands, she forced a smile.

“Here, I’ll take it inside.”

“Okay...”

Lucas added sincerely, “Ms. Chloe, if I may, whether this child is Mr. Joseph’s or not, it won’t affect his feelings for you.”

Chloe’s lip twitched. “Exactly. It’s not like Joseph is the one suffering any grievances. Why should it affect his feelings for me?”

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Score 9.5

Chapter 555 Xavia Wants to Share Good News With Joseph

Lucas was speechless as Chloe had a point.

“All right. Don’t worry about us,” she said lightly before walking into the office with the

folder.

Joseph was standing by the floor-to-ceiling window when she entered. He turned to look at her and said, “Right on time.”

Feigning composure, she handed him the folder. “Go ahead. Open it and take a look.”

Joseph’s jaw clenched tightly as he pulled out the report. In just one glance, he knew the answer. His eyebrows furrowed deeply, and then he relaxed them. ‘Well, it’s time to play by

ear.’

Beside him, Chloe tiptoed to catch a glimpse of the report’s contents.

[DNA match rate: 99.9%, indicating a blood relationship.]

As if a string in her mind suddenly snapped, Chloe’s heart was gripped with excruciating pain, rendering her incapable of rational thought. Although she had mentally prepared herself for this, the stark reality laid out before her was still hard to swallow.

Her footsteps became unsteady and she tottered. The composure she had maintained up till now shattered into pieces.

Joseph swiftly reached out to support her. “Chloe...”

“Don’t touch me.” Chloe fought to maintain her composure. “Give me the report. I want to read it all.”

Joseph understood her pain and tried to console her. "Don't read it. There's nothing worth seeing. Are you hungry? Let me take you out for a meal."

"Give it to me." Her voice trembled but held firm determination.

Seeing Chloe like this, Joseph opened his mouth but could not utter a word. Suddenly, everything was different from what he had imagined. He thought he had everything under control, but in reality, it seemed like he did not. He could not describe this feeling. He felt lost, and everything was spinning out of control. He disliked this feeling immensely.

Suddenly, he remembered the words Harold had told him.

'Chloe isn't being magnanimous. She compromises because she loves you.'

"Give it to me!" Chloe repeated, her eyes bloodshot.

Joseph met her gaze, feeling a sharp pang in his heart. In the end, he handed over the report in

his hand.

Chloe took the report. Seemingly falling into a trance, she meticulously read every word, over and over again. Her eyes became blurry from reading, but she could not find any loopholes. Her fingers loosened, and the report slipped from her hand, scattering all over the floor.

Joseph reached out to hold Chloe's hand but she pushed him away. His face turned grim. "If you're unhappy, you can express it. Don't throw a tantrum."

Chloe looked up at him, her gaze filled with disbelief. At that moment, she could not distinguish who was right and who was wrong.

'Am I throwing a tantrum? Should I never have agreed to this in the first place? Now that I have, should I not get upset and just accept everything?'

"Joe!"

Someone with a lively and cheerful voice suddenly burst in. Xavia stood at the door, observing the obvious tension in the room. Despite her inner delight, she maintained a composed demeanor and hesitated before saying, "I'm sorry. I didn't know you were here, Ms. Chloe."

Chloe was unhappy at that moment and shot Xavia an unfriendly look. She retorted, sarcastically, "Don't people usually knock before entering a room? Or do you knock when I'm not here and act like this when I am?"

"I wasn't... I was just so happy and wanted to share the good news with Joe," Xavia explained.

Joseph already knew what she meant by "good news," and his expression turned dark. "I already know. Go home and take care of yourself and the baby."

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Score 9.5

Chapter 556 Leaving Joseph

A flicker of sadness appeared in Xavia's eyes. She remained silent, merely nodding before, turning away, consumed by a sense of despair.

As she walked to the doorway, she bumped into the corner of a table, causing her to bend over in pain and clutch her stomach. Seeing this, Joseph quickly approached her and asked, "Are you okay? Should I take you to the hospital?"

"I'm fine." Xavia turned back to glance at Chloe, saying empathically, "You and Ms. Chloe should talk. I'll come to see you another time."

"Okay," Joseph said while instructing Lucas to take Xavia home.

Lucas pressed his lips together, reluctant to comply but refrained from saying anything. He stole a glance at Chloe, whose eyes were red and lips were tightly pursed. Chloe did not want to appear a failure in front of Xavia, so she maintained a straight posture, struggling to contain her emotions. As he watched this unfold, Lucas felt a pang of discomfort.

"Thank you, Joe. I'm sorry for all the trouble. I'll be more careful from now on. I'll watch my step and take good care of our child. I won't be so reckless anymore," Xavia said, caressing her stomach like a gentle mother.

Upon hearing the word “child,” Joseph’s cold gaze softened slightly. The feeling of becoming a father for the first time was indescribably marvelous. If only this child were his and Chloe’s, it would be perfect.

Chloe witnessed this scene unfold before her eyes, and her heart felt as though it was being forcefully torn apart. She clenched her fists tightly, trying to prevent her tears from falling. At that point, she felt something inside her die

Having accomplished her objective, Xavia did not stay any longer and gracefully departed with Lucas. Back in the office, Joseph and Chloe were once again alone.

He gazed at her and said, “Let’s talk about whatever grievances you have. I’m here to listen.”

“There’s nothing to say. I want to go back to sleep,” Chloe replied calmly, her eyes devoid of any emotion.

In an instant, Joseph’s heart was filled with panic. He could not comprehend what he had done wrong or why a sense of unease had taken hold of him.

Ignoring his reaction, Chloe rose to her feet and headed toward the door.

“I’ll send you home.” Joseph’s brows furrowed deeply as he kept pace with her.

Chloe gave no response, neither agreeing nor refusing. She appeared listless as if her vibrant and radiant self had withered.

After escorting Chloe back to the house, Joseph wanted to stay with her.

“I’d prefer some time alone,” Chloe uttered, enveloped in the warmth of the blankets. She averted her face from him, her voice eerily composed.

Joseph could not fathom her thoughts. Always aloof and proud, he was now at a loss for words. He wondered if he should grovel and plead. Throughout the journey, he had been actively seeking topics of conversation. Was that not enough?

He did not believe he had done anything wrong. The decision to keep the child had been made with her consent, and he had not acted without informing her first, so why was she mad?

Despite his love for her, Joseph's pride prevented him from groveling. When his temper flared, he forgot about the unsettling situation from this morning and promptly returned to Fairlight.

Hearing the sound of the door closing, Chloe could no longer contain herself. Tears streamed down her face, soaking the pillow. It was not the heart-wrenching, soul-tearing sobbing she had imagined, but a silent and unassuming weeping.

After two hours of crying, she had shed enough tears, and her mind began to clear. Following her innermost feelings, Chloe made a decision-she was going to leave Joseph. The Johnson Group could be managed remotely, and besides, she had no close relatives or friends. Just informing Emily would be enough.

Chloe took a deep breath, lifted the covers, and got out of bed. In less than twenty minutes, her possessions were neatly packed into her luggage. She flagged down a cab, left the courtyard, and found temporary accommodation in a guesthouse.

She then sent Joseph a breakup text.

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Score 9.5

Chapter 557 How Dare She

A wave of relief washed over Chloe as the message was sent. From now on, she did not have to compromise or accept that child. And she would not have to see Xavia anymore. She yearned to leave behind this unhealthy relationship and pursue a normal life.

greatest

Curling up on the couch, she gazed out the window at the soaring birds in the sky, longing for the same sense of freedom. In the past, when the Johnsons had oppressed her, her dream was to earn enough money to travel across the country. But now that she had the money, she was carrying a child...

Life was just never perfect.

Chloe's mind was in turmoil, yet oddly clear at the same time. She sat quietly for a while before calling Emily to assure her that she was safe.

"What?! You broke up with Joseph?!" Emily's voice boomed through the phone, resonating in

Chloe's ears.

"Yes, and lower your voice. My ear is ringing," Chloe replied.

"Sorry, I was just really surprised," Emily apologized, "You initiated the breakup?"

"Yes. After Xavia was confirmed to be pregnant with Joseph's child, she wasted no time in seeing him as soon as she received the amniocentesis results. She made quite a spectacle in

front of me."

"Ugh, does she have no shame? Is getting pregnant with someone else's husband something to be proud of?"

"Let's not talk about her. I might turn off my phone for a while, so if you need anything, send me a text, and I'll reply when I see it."

"Are you worried that Joseph will bother you?"

Pinching her brow, Chloe said self-mockingly, "Bother me? I'll be grateful as long as he doesn't get angry."

Given Joseph's terrible temper, it was unlikely he would tolerate being dumped. Maybe he would not even call her. She had been deluding herself.

"But it's his fault..." Emily grumbled in dissatisfaction.

It took two to tango. Even if Xavia was problematic, Joseph was equally at fault too.

“I went back on my words too. I can’t accept that kid.”

“Don’t blame yourself for everything. This isn’t your fault.” Emily’s voice carried strength as she reassured Chloe. “Even if you’ve lost love, you still have friendship. Whatever decision you make, I’ll support you. Don’t underestimate yourself, your prime years have just begun.

Besides, it’s cool to be a hot mom!”

Chloe was touched, her eyes welling up with tears. People came and went in her life, but Emily had been there for her since the beginning and not left. This friendship was rare and precious.

“Yes, I will. I’ll plan my future life well,” Chloe replied.

The two of them spent an hour on the phone, pouring out their thoughts and emotions. After ending the call, Chloe turned off her phone.

At Fairlight.

Several business partners smiled, their faces filled with wrinkles and their muscles tense.

“Mr. Joseph, please feel free to share any opinions you have about the project. We’ll make the necessary changes to the contract until you’re satisfied.”

Joseph glanced at them casually, twirling an expensive pen in his hand. “Do you not

understand the words that are coming out of my mouth? I’m not interested in real estate at the moment.”

“Mr. Joseph, please take another look. It’ll only take a few minutes of your time. We’re very sincere about this,” one of the men continued to plead, refusing to give up so easily.

“Sir, you have a message,” Lucas said as he came in with Joseph’s phone.

Concerned about missing a call from Chloe because of the morning meeting, Joseph handed his phone to Lucas for safekeeping.

“Give it to me,” Joseph said.

“Here you go, sir,” Lucas replied respectfully.

“Wait.” Joseph picked up the phone and read the message, his expression indifferent. “Escort them out.”

Understanding his intention, Lucas politely gestured to the developers.

“Please gentlemen,

this way.

“We can’t leave yet. Briarlake is targeting us from every angle. They want to monopolize the real estate market. We have no way out, which is why we sought Mr. Joseph’s help.”

“You’re the only person who can help us, Mr. Joseph.”

“Yes. Mr. Joseph, please lend us a hand.”

They had heard that Otto and Joseph had an altercation at an auction event some time ago. They thought that there was only one person who could stand up to Brairlake, and that was the man before them.

Upon hearing the mention of Brairlake, Lucas paused and looked toward Joseph. The latter

paid no attention to their words. A stunned expression dawned on his handsome face, and he even momentarily thought he was hallucinating. He stood there, dazed for a few seconds,

before looking back at the text on his phone.

‘It’s true... Chloe just broke up with me. How dare this dumbo break up with me!’

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Chapter 558 Unbelievable

Joseph's face darkened. He gripped his pen so hard that it snapped in half.

He found it difficult to believe that this was happening. Thinking back to Chloe's silent demeanor from a few hours ago, he realized she had been planning to break up with him since then. No, maybe even earlier than that.

As this thought coursed through his mind, his countenance grew even darker and the fury swirling within his chest pierced him like a thousand sharp blades.

Lucas perceptively sensed the changes in Joseph's emotions. He carefully approached him and asked, "Sir, would you like to continue the discussion?"

"Please give us a chance, Mr. Joseph. Having one more friend means having one more source of strength."

"If Brairlake hadn't overstepped, we wouldn't be troubling you with this."

The business partners thought they had a chance and expressed their sincerity one after another. Little did they know that their voices irritated Joseph even more.

"Get out!"

Joseph's sudden outburst reverberated through the room, his eyes ablaze with crimson fury and the veins on his forehead throbbing intensely. An eerie silence descended upon the space, and everyone froze in response.

Lucas was puzzled and could not understand why Joseph would suddenly fly into a rage. His gaze landed on Joseph's phone, and his pupils constricted, finally grasping the reason behind. Joseph's immense anger.

'How bold of you, Ms. Chloe...'

Suppressing his fear, Lucas escorted the bewildered business partners out of the office. When he returned, the room was empty.

Joseph sped back to the house, fury coursing through his veins. He disregarded the traffic rules and even received a fine from an officer. After that, although he still failed to reign in his emotions, he managed to restrain himself from any further outbursts or misconduct.

“Chloe, I’ll count to three and you’d better be out of the bedroom by then. Otherwise, you’ll face the consequences,” Joseph said, throwing his car keys onto the coffee table and casting a cold gaze upstairs.

A terrifying silence hung in the air, with no response to his words. Joseph’s fingertips trembled slightly, sensing what might have happened. He strode toward the bedroom door and gave the door a gentle push.

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The wardrobe door was wide open, revealing an empty space where once Chloe’s clothes resided. Her absence confirmed that her heart held no trace of nostalgia. Joseph’s muscles tensed, his anger concealing a hint of unnoticed nervousness.

He dialed Chloe’s number, hoping she would answer and come home. If she offered him an apology, he was willing to forgive her. The call went through quickly, but instead of hearing Chloe’s voice, he was met with a familiar, icy mechanical one.

“Hello, the number you have dialed is currently unavailable. Please try again later...”

Joseph strongly suspected Chloe had blocked him. He called Lucas and asked him to try reaching out to Chloe. However, Lucas too received the same message of her phone being

turned off.

A strange sense of relief washed over Joseph. He sat down, took a sip of water, and then headed to the Johnson Group. The receptionist was puzzled upon seeing him. “Ms. Chloe went to Estre on a business trip and has yet to return.”

Joseph furrowed his brow, scrutinizing her face. The receptionist felt a chill down her spine, and she quickly defended herself, “I’m telling the truth.”

He sensed that she was not lying and thus wasted no time as he turned around and left. He knew that Chloe would not return to Oceanic Residence. So that left only two other options: the Johnson villa and Emily’s place.

Joseph instructed Lucas to find Emily while he went to the Johnson villa. When Emily saw Lucas, she pretended that she did not know anything and said, “Coco hasn’t contacted me. Joseph must have upset her again.”

“I don’t know. I’m just here to ask questions.” Lucas stared at her. “Do you really not know where Ms. Chloe is?”

“I don’t!” she asserted boldly, urging him to leave. “You have to leave now. I need to get back to work. This won’t look very good to my superiors if they found out.”

Lucas had no choice. He did not want to disturb Emily, so he reported to Joseph about his finding.

“What was Emily’s reaction when she heard about this?”

“She seemed surprised...”

Gritting his teeth, Joseph said, “She’s lying”

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Score 9.5

Chapter 559 Looking For His Wife

Chloe had carefully planned her escape this time, and Emily was the only one trusted. She definitely would not want to worry Emily by not being able to reach her. On top of that, Emily’s indifferent response and not showing curiosity about the reason for all this was suspicious. After all, she had a strong affinity for gossip.

“Umm... Should I continue questioning Emily?”

“No need.”

“Okay.”

After ending the call with Lucas, Joseph arrived at Chloe’s family villa. The gate was tightly secured, and there was no trace of anyone inside. It became clear that she was not there.

Joseph's eyelid twitched, and he slammed his hand against the steering wheel. 'Is she playing a game of hide-and-seek with me? Does she truly believe that I can't find her?'

He returned to his house and instructed the property management to investigate the community's surveillance cameras. The footage revealed Chloe carrying a suitcase and getting into a cab, but the car's license plate was blurred and difficult to read.

The property manager offered his assistance, saying, "Mr. Joseph, I know people at the cab company. Shall I ask them for you?"

Joseph was annoyed but did not refuse the offer. Half an hour later, the cab driver who had transported Chloe appeared before him.

The cabby recalled the details and said, "I remember taking this lady to Sunshine Street. She didn't specify a particular destination and got off there. The street is bustling with numerous hotels and guesthouses, so it'll be challenging to find one person among them."

As soon as the cabby finished speaking, Joseph got up and left, leaving the others behind. The cabby commented, "Who is this important person he's searching for? He seems to be in quite a hurry."

The property manager smirked and replied, "His wife."

"He's so rich, and his wife still argues with him? She doesn't appreciate her good fortune. What a waste."

"Maybe she's rich too. Anyway, who are we to judge."

As night descended, the air of Sunshine Street filled with bustling energy. Tyson unexpectedly crossed paths with Joseph while out on an investigation.

"What are you doing here?" Tyson asked curiously.

"Looking for someone," Joseph replied, his gaze falling on the police identification card hanging from Tyson's chest. With a police ID, he could easily obtain the information he desired from every hotel.

Instinctively, Tyson covered his ID with his hand. "Who are you looking for? Chloe?"

Joseph's eyes gleamed and he said, "Borrow me your ID."

"I can't do that. It's illegal, and besides, the photo on the card is mine. It wouldn't be of any use to you," Tyson reasoned.

Joseph's expression turned cold. "No one will notice."

Tyson hesitated. "Can I refuse?"

"No, you can't."

Tyson felt helpless. "Who are you looking for? I'll accompany you," he offered.

"A dummy."

There were over thirty hotels and guesthouses scattered along Sunshine Street. Joseph eliminated several establishments where Chloe was unlikely to have gone and swiftly began his search. After two hours, only one guesthouse remained unchecked.

The two entered, with Joseph leading the way.

The owner proved to be a young man, who froze briefly when he lifted his head and saw Joseph. He had a distinct feeling that this gentleman was not here for a stay.

Joseph's refined aura was reminiscent of noble. Despite his restrained demeanor, it could not conceal the innate air of superiority that came with those of high status. A person like him would not stay in such a humble establishment.

"Did a woman named Chloe Johnson check into your guesthouse today?" Joseph took Tyson's identification and placed it in front of the owner.

The owner paused, but the name struck a chord with him.

"Yes, there was."

After all, the young woman was quite pretty.

Jojo and Coco's Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Score 9.5

Chapter 560 Don't Defy Me, Chloe

Joseph's eyes narrowed slightly and he asked coldly, "Which room is she in?"

The owner lowered his head to check the system. "Please wait a moment, let me check."

Tyson took back his identification and glanced at the man beside him silently.

"Room 3, second floor," the owner stated.

Joseph fished out a cigarette, lit it, and proceeded up the stairs. Tyson followed closely behind. and asked, "Did you and Chloe have a fight?"

Joseph remained silent, showing no intention of answering.

"Have you two remarried? Have you obtained a marriage certificate? How's her health been lately?"

Joseph turned his head to look at him. "Do you have something to tell me?"

Tyson touched his nose. "No. Nothing."

He just wanted to see if Chloe had terminated the pregnancy. Judging by Joseph's reaction, it seemed likely that she had, but she probably did not inform him. Otherwise, how could he remain so composed? After all, a pregnancy would begin to show at four months.

The guesthouse was not large, and they reached Chloe's room within a minute or two.

Joseph and Tyson exchanged a few words, with the former instructing, "You should leave."

"Okay, okay. I won't intrude on your private conversation," Tyson responded. understandingly, taking out his walkie-talkie and leaving to find his colleagues.

Joseph raised his hand and rang the doorbell.

“Who is it?”

A familiar voice piped up, causing his brows to furrow tightly. He found it difficult to believe that Chloe would stay in a place that cost only 10 bucks per night.

‘Where’s that card that I gave her? Does she not know how to use it?’

Chloe had ordered takeout and assumed it was the delivery man, so she opened the door without any precaution. Before she could react, Joseph stepped inside.

Chloe was momentarily stunned, looking up at him in a daze. Their eyes met, and sparks flew. She widened her eyes, wanting to push him out of her room, but Joseph’s tall figure remained unmoved.

He firmly grabbed her shoulder and hissed, “Are you trying to push me out?”

1/2

“This is my room, and you’re barging in without permission. Why can’t I push you?” Chloe

retorted.

He took a deep breath, gripping her wrist and trying to lead her outside. “Let’s go home.”

“No, I won’t. We’ve already broken up,” Chloe replied.

“You’ve been at this for a whole day. Haven’t you caused enough trouble?”

“I haven’t caused any trouble. I’m serious, Joseph. We’re done.” Chloe sneered.

“I won’t become the stepmother of your ex’s child,” she continued, “I don’t want to endure such grievances. It doesn’t matter whether you think I’m untrustworthy or I’m just throwing a temper tantrum. In any case, I’ve decided to end our relationship. Now, please leave.”

Joseph stared into her eyes, and a disdainful smirk spread across his handsome face. “Do you know the significance of simultaneously owning Fairlight and the Whitman Group? Our child would be born into a position of

privilege, far superior to others. Xavia's child on the other. hand will be in a pitiful position. What more could you ask for?" he taunted.

"I'm not ungrateful. I just can't bear it!" Chloe exploded, tears shimmering in her eyes as she suppressed her pain. "I can't sacrifice my dignity just to be with you!" The thought of raising his ex's child together disgusted her.

"In what sense would you be sacrificing your dignity?" Joseph pressed his temples, his gaze cold and impatient, each word piercing her heart. "You're simply taking advantage of the situation.

"Come home with me now. Don't make me say it a second time," he demanded. He had made countless compromises in this matter, only to receive her stubbornness and willfulness in

return.

"Fine, think of it as me taking advantage of the situation. Will you leave now?" Chloe retorted.

"Chloe, don't defy me," he warned.

Despite meeting his cold gaze and feeling a tinge of fear, Chloe mustered the courage to express her innermost thoughts. "Now that our relationship is over, I have the right to stay wherever I choose. You can't dictate my

freedom."

A malicious smile played on Joseph's lips. "Our relationship isn't something you can end by simply calling it quits."

Jojo and Coco's Unexpected Love By Aurora Summers

Score 9.5