

## Chapter 9

In the auction, there were still many expensive auction items on the auction table. However, the auction prices did not seem shocking after the competition between Kendrick and the Zabinski family. Once the auction came to an end, everyone left their seats in turn.

Before Kendrick left, he glanced toward the VIP room on the second floor of the club again, and a trace of gloom flashed across his eyes.

Those two postage stamps that fetched a sky-high price were also sent to Carlos. Meanwhile, Robert left the club through the VIP-designated lane.

Just then, a voice suddenly rang out. "You really spent a lot, Robert, bidding down two postage stamps for 900 thousand dollars. It seems that you were not as approachable as you look." The beautiful short-haired woman from earlier slowly walked toward Robert with her slender legs covered in black stockings. With a faint smile on her face, she reached out her small hand voluntarily to him and said, "Robert, my name is Naomi Labelle. I'm Connor Labelle's daughter."

Robert then tried to recall Connor's name in his mind. A short while later, he remembered that there was a person named Connor Labelle on the list, who was involved in the real estate industry and seemed to be of some renown in Yrinas.

Then, Robert also stretched out his hand. Just as he grasped Naomi's hand, he saw Marilyn and Kendrick walking side by side in his direction. Marilyn, who was dressed in a fiery-red evening dress, appeared very dazzling.

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Robert grabbed Naomi's wrist, pulled her hard into his embrace, and looked down at her as Naomi was nearly pushed against his chest. Following that, he uttered with a smile, "You said you wanted to have a date with me? I have time tonight."

In turn, Naomi covered her mouth and giggled. "Robert, you're really rushing into it. Shouldn't illustrious young men like you wait for me to approach and get closer to you voluntarily?"

Robert and Naomi looked extremely ambiguous, and this scene was witnessed by both Marilyn and Kendrick, who were passing by.

When Marilyn saw such a short-haired beauty snuggling up in Robert's arms, her expression instantly turned particularly awkward. Her heart even pounded faster. At that brief moment, Marilyn even had the urge to go up and pull them apart.

"Marilyn, this ex-boyfriend of yours really has good tricks up his sleeves," Kendrick sneered. "Only one day had passed, and he was already hugging Connor Labelle's daughter. Look at the clothes he's wearing. It seems like Naomi is really into him."

Kendrick's sneering made Marilyn calm down immediately. Subsequently, she held onto his arm and shook her head. "Why bother paying attention to him?"

Hearing that, Kendrick's expression immediately turned smug. "Marilyn, Robert indeed has his means toward women, but it would be better for a man to be successful in some way. Otherwise, ha-ha, what's the difference between such a person and social trash if all he did was think about how to

live off a woman?"

Marilyn and Kendrick walked by in front of Robert. Just as they brushed past each other, Robert and Marilyn subconsciously glanced at each other too. When their gazes met, they withdrew their gazes away almost simultaneously, as if they had been shocked by the exchange of glances.

After Marilyn and Kendrick got in the car, Naomi, who was leaning against Robert's chest, straightened up. She smiled charmingly at Robert and said, "All right, Robert, they're gone. You don't have to drag me to act with you anymore."

Robert looked back at the car that was already started, and then looked at Naomi, whose eyes were crinkled with her beaming. He blurted, "You..."

"How sad. The affection in your eyes just now could not even be hidden, Robert. Well, I did a huge favor for you this time. So, remember to ask me out for dinner. This is my phone number." Naomi stuffed a note into Robert's hand and turned around. Immediately after, one could smell the fragrance that wafted off her.

Meanwhile, in Porsche, Marilyn noticed Naomi's graceful figure through the rearview mirror. Immediately, Marilyn's pretty face appeared slightly pale.

"Marilyn, what's wrong?"

As Kendrick attempted to take Marilyn's hand, Marilyn dodged his attempt.

While tidying up the hair bangs in front of her forehead, Marilyn then shook her head and answered, "I'm all right, just feeling a little uncomfortable. You can stop the car at the

front. I'll head back now."

After saying that, Marilyn turned her head and looked out of the window. Her demure hands were already clenched without her realizing it, and her mind kept replaying the image of Naomi snuggled up in Robert's embrace earlier.

"Marilyn, you were the one who took the initiative to let him go. From now on, he no longer has anything to do with you," thought Marilyn to herself firmly.

"It should be the last time we meet tomorrow," Marilyn murmured while her eyes were covered with a faint layer of mist as her tears formed quietly.

On the other end, Carlos's car had already arrived in front of Robert, and Robert got into the car. Even though Robert had one-upped Kendrick hard at the auction today, to him, the happiness he felt from it was not as intense as he thought. What he wanted was not to be stronger than anyone or compete over anyone, but he just wanted that beautiful woman.

Robert closed his eyes and inhaled deeply. Tomorrow was the graduation ceremony.

"Mr. Zabinski, there was a document about some new up-and-coming groups that want to enter the circle, but your approval is needed for that. One of them is even your classmate, Barry," Carlos reported some updates to Robert in the passenger seat.

In response, Robert nodded and said nothing. He knew about Barry, who was a proud person and had nearly zero contact with Robert.

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Once they arrived at the hotel, Carlos then sent Robert some information about the Zabel family, including their investment projects, trade channels, and various asset details of the Zabel family.

This document was of little use to the vast majority of people. For Robert, however, this document gave him too much information.

At midnight, Robert had already concocted and smoothed out a plan to deal with the Zabel family on the computer.

"I hope your strength is worthy of your arrogance. Kendrick, you and your family are still planning to enter the business field in Yrinas? Interesting."

Robert then proceeded to close his laptop. When the night had passed and the morning arrived, he changed into the academic gown prepared by Carlos and went to university.

"Robert is here!"

"He's a student of our university!"

"You were on scholarship for four years! After graduation, there will probably be many companies competing to hire you!"

On this day, all the graduating students put on their academic gowns. This marked the last time they would have gathered together.

"I must say, aren't you guys being too nosy now? I'm afraid that Marilyn would have already made arrangements for her other half ages ago!"

Everyone was more or less familiar with Marilyn's family and

its current state.

After someone said that, a lot of people focused their attention on Marilyn.

Today, Marilyn was dressed in an academic gown with no makeup on. There were no flaws that could be found on her bare, pretty face. Her curved brows, big bright eyes, and the faint smile on her mouth were all so attractive, lending to her already exquisite temperament. She was not called the campus belle of Yrinas University for nothing.

Facing the gazes of so many people, Marilyn did not appear to be panicky. She smiled and softly replied, "Robert and I have broken up."

From the calm way that Marilyn mentioned the breakup, it sounded like the breakup was nothing special. No emotional fluctuation could be seen on her face. It was as if Robert had never had anything to do with her.

Robert saw the way she reacted to it. Similarly, there was also no sign of any emotion on his face either. He just clearly registered Marilyn's current appearance in his heart.

"Ha-ha, they broke up! It seems like a sound decision!" came a burst of laughter and scorn. "It's like I said before. How dare such a loser like Robert be together with Marilyn?"