

## **Marrying 1041**

### **Chapter 1041 Unpleasant Reunion**

With a swift movement, Stella dived into the crowd, enthusiastically greeting the newly arrived grand uncle. She attempted to strike up a pleasant conversation, mentioning how she had eagerly anticipated his arrival at the entrance for quite some time.

“Sorry about Stella, Mrs. Lenoir,” Ariana apologized with an awkward smile at Cherise. “She’s always like this...”

Cherise’s expression twisted with confusion and nostalgia as she observed Stella mingling in the crowd.

Discovering that this seemingly pretentious and superficial Stella was actually her former high school classmate was quite a revelation. She couldn’t help but let out a sigh.

Although they once shared the same classroom, they seemed to belong to entirely different worlds, with contrasting values and perspectives after those years in school.

“Yeah, that makes sense,” Ariana considered, tapping her fingers. Since you’re the same age as Sav and Stella, and you all went to Shawbury High School, it’s totally possible you were classmates.”

She laughed, continuing, “I never imagined you’d have been in the same class as them and Steve, my new brother-in-law. I invited you here for a good time, little did we know it would be a high school reunion. Funny how things turn out, right? Oh, by the way, Sav has invited a lot of her ex-classmates here today. Maybe chatting with them will trigger some memories!”

Cherise nodded, “I hope so.”

Just then, Damien and Blake approached. Mr. Hampson and Otto went to park the car and arrange accommodations for the next few days.

“Deep in conversation, I see. What’s the gossip?” Damien quizzed.

“Guess what! The bride and groom today are actually my old high school classmates!” Cherise beamed, linking arms with Damien.

“Wouldn’t be surprised if the bride was my old BFF,” she teased.

Damien finally lifted his gaze, scanning the names of the groom and bride for the day. He chuckled, “You’re spot on. She was.”

Cherise’s eyes widened in surprise. “No way! Really?”

“Absolutely, Damien replied, a gentle smile gracing his lips. He mentioned he’d recently delved into her past, confirming Savannah as her high school BE

“But he continued, his tone thoughtful, ‘during our investigation, we discovered that back in high school, Savannah didn’t seem to have much interaction with her supposed fiancé.’”

According to reports from Shawbury, Savannah, who was once close to Cherise in high school, was romantically involved with another classmate.

support her boyfriend’s studies with the money she earned.

As a result, she gradually lost touch with her high school friends, including Cherise.

“Follow me,” Ariana beckoned Cherise upstairs, leading her to a table where their former classmates were gathered in the corner.

“Please, take a seat. Excuse me while I go greet my family,” Ariana excused herself before departing.

Cherise nodded appreciatively, sharing a meaningful glance with Ariana before she departed.

"Hey, Cherry! Over here!" a man near the staircase called out, recognizing Cherise as he approached and warmly welcoming her.

Afterward, turning to the others at the table, he declared proudly, "See, I told you she'd come! Cherise was Savannah's closest friend in high school. I knew she wouldn't miss this. You guys doubted me!"

Fetching two chairs, he gestured for Cherise and Damien to join them. "Since you've been living in the city since graduation, you rarely come back, right? So when I received Savannah's wedding invitation recently, I knew you'd make the trip back for it. And here you are."

#### Chapter 1042 Damien Defended Cherise

As Cherise arrived, she was greeted by a familiar face from high school-the plump boy who had remained the same over the years.

"Is this your boyfriend?" A sharp voice interrupted, and Cherise saw a heavily made-up woman eyeing Damien. "Introduce him to everyone," she insisted.

Cherise racked her brain but couldn't place the woman. Were they classmates from high school? They sat at the same table, after all.

Damien leaned in, noticing Cherise's confusion. "She was a rebellious classmate, expelled for early love and abortion. You were never close to her."

Cherise was surprised by Damien's insight into her past. But seeing the woman with her heavy makeup and sharp tongue, Cherise couldn't help but agree with Damien.

I mean, she knew Damien was off-limits, yet she shamelessly ogled him, which got on Cherise's nerves!

Cherise casually grabbed a 5L drink bottle to block the woman's blatant attempts to catch Damien's eye. "You may call him Mr. Lenoir."

Cherise's calm yet standoffish attitude made the woman smirk. "Just asking for an introduction. Why are you so uptight and unhappy? Afraid someone else might steal him?"

The woman chuckled, "Cherise, oh Cherise, in high school, you were the epitome of a low self-esteem ugly duckling. Now, your taste in men might have improved, but that inferiority complex of yours still lingers!"

The woman's words sparked laughter from the other women at the table, who inspected Damien closely, "Her boyfriend is so handsome. No wonder she's afraid we'll keep staring."

"If we were to snatch such a catch, she'll end up a lonely old spinster!"

"Spot on!"

The women grew brazen in their remarks, some even boldly asking Damien for his contact information.

These former classmates continued to ignore Cherise as if she were invisible.

Cherise's smile started to melt away, replaced by a frown. This high school reunion was a breeding ground for bad memories and awkward encounters.

Just as she was about to break the ice, Damien, ever the protector, spoke up next to her.

"Oh, you clueless fools! Don't you get it? You should be thanking Cherise for even tolerating you! Seriously, some gratitude would be nice." he spat, his voice dripping with disdain.

Damien reached for his glass, eyes scanning the women with a chilling intensity that sent shivers down their spines.

His voice, cold and indifferent, pierced the air. "While I was courting Cherise, I learned all about the nasty things you used to do to her. Remember all that teasing and tormenting in high school? Her distance now is her way of avoiding you – a bunch of pariahs. She's only being civil because of this stupid high school reunion. Believe me, the only reason you haven't faced my wrath yet is because she doesn't want you to pee yourselves in public and humiliate yourselves further."

With that, he pointed at the heavily made-up woman who had spoken first. "Remember when you spiked her coffee with soy sauce, planted cheat sheets in her pocket to frame her for cheating, and ridiculed her appearance?"

The woman's face drained of color, rendered speechless.

Damien's smirk widened as he pointed his finger at another woman at the table. "And you," he said, his voice dripping with disgust, "Remember that time you 'borrowed' Cherise's pads during that time of the month? And then, the audacity to sell them back to her at an extortionate price? Classic high school hustle, am I right?"

The woman sputtered, face turning red. "No way! That's a lie!"