

Mistaking a Magnate for a Male Escort

chapter 1293

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Chapter 1293 Jealousy

Zachary glared at him coldly and got into the car.

Seeing it was no use persuading Zachary to stay, Ben had no choice but to inform Sam and Hayley of their departure. After that, he swung by the kitchen to let Charlotte know they were leaving. "Ms. Lindberg, something came up at work, so we're making a move first. Bruce will be here in a bit to pick you guys up."

"Alright. Don't worry about us," Charlotte said, taking a quick look at Zachary, who was already sitting in the car.

"Then we'll make a move first. See y'all."

Seeing Ben was about to leave, Lupine ran after him and tugged him. "Where are y'all going? To meet the woman?" she interrogated.

"I don't think so. It's probably about work," Ben answered honestly. Truth be told, he had no idea what was going on.

"Probably?" Lupine asked, "I bet he's going to see the woman!"

Ben blinked his eyes at her cluelessly.

"I must be dumb to think a leopard can change its spots," Lupine replied in anger, "I even thought he sincerely wanted to mend fences with Ms. Lindberg, but it seems like a call from that woman is enough to make him change his mind."

Ben was speechless. "Seriously. You don't even know what's happening. Why are you so pissed?"

He realized that although Lupine was rational and calm usually, her temper was just exactly like Morgan's when she was angry with him.

"Whatever!" Lupine kicked him and left.

"Ouch!" Ben rubbed his knee, grunting.

Honk! Ben went back to the car, limping. He looked back at Lupine from the rearview mirror as he drove off. "This woman is no joke."

"Does it hurt?" Zachary asked sarcastically.

"I literally got scolded for nothing. She even kicked me! She's so unreasonable."

"You should be happy she's still bantering with you. It means you have a special place in her heart," Zachary said quietly, "She won't bother putting up a fight with you when she doesn't care about you anymore."

"Really?" Ben asked with a smile, "Does this mean I'm someone special to her?"

"Uh huh. She was looking at you all the time."

"Ha..." Ben smiled like a child at the revelation.

"How I envy you guys," Zachary sighed, "This is the best phase in a relationship."

"But it's been half a year already. We've not taken a step further," Ben complained in disappointment, "She's not like Morgan. Morgan's very expressive when it comes to relationships."

Ben was excited talking about other people's relationships. "Speaking of, do you know Marino didn't even come back yesterday?"

"Are you jealous?" Zachary teased, "You can take a day off too."

"Well..." Ben's face turned red all of a sudden. "That won't work. Lupine is not an easy woman."

“Useless.”

Zachary decided to drop the subject and took out his phone. A frown settled over his brows as he looked at the document Lucy just sent him.

Back at Dr. Felch’s place, Charlotte decided to have some tea in the courtyard after leaving the ingredients to brew in the pot.

She was enjoying the warm sunshine when she saw the tire tracks in the courtyard. Her heart sunk thinking about Zachary and Nancy.

Is he that excited to meet her?

He can’t even wait for a night.

“Ms. Lindberg, why not we go over to the city tonight?” Lupine suggested, “I’m sure Dr. Felch wants to rest after dinner, so we can leave for the city after that. We won’t make it back in time to see the children too. They’ll be asleep by then.”

“Just say if you want to see Ben,” Charlotte called her out.

“That’s not what I mean,” Lupine explained anxiously, “We’re running out of baby formula for Alpha, Beta, and Gamma. We will need to do some grocery shopping anyway. We might as well just go to the city.”

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Chapter 1294 A Worthy Rival

Charlotte looked at the distressed woman and pursed her lips. People in love are all the same. They can’t hide their feelings for one another.

She thought about how Zachary and she used to be madly in love too, but so much had changed.

Charlotte had given in to life.

She did not want to fight for their relationship anymore. Even if Zachary were to take a step toward her, she would retreat.

Although she still loved him, she would not let her feelings govern her decisions.

She would bury her feelings for him forever.

"Is that okay, Ms. Lindberg?" Lupine asked again.

"You go buy what you need then. I'll stay back to keep Dr. Felch company. You can have some time to yourself tonight. Just be here tomorrow morning." Charlotte finally relented.

"Ms. Lindberg... You know this is not what I mean. I want you to take time off together with me. I'm not going anywhere if you're not coming."

"Just do as I say," Charlotte insisted, glaring at her. Just as she was about to continue, her phone rang. She hesitated when she saw an unknown number on her screen. "Yes...?"

"Hi, Ms. Lindberg, Nancy here. Are you free for a meet-up?"

Nancy's voice sounded amiable.

Charlotte did not know why she just could not bring herself to hate this woman. Unlike Synder, Helena, and Diana, Charlotte felt Nancy was different from them all. Her experience had taught her to be shrewd when it came to trusting people around her, yet despite her getting her guard up around people, she did not feel Nancy was a threatening person.

"How did you get my number?" Charlotte asked after some thought.

"I have my ways," Nancy said with a slight smile, "You made quite an impression at Pillere. I hope you still remember me?"

Charlotte squinted her eyes listening to the woman. She's no small fry. She knows who she's dealing with and she even came to me herself.

"Of course," Charlotte replied cordially, collecting herself. "Thanks for lending me your swimsuit last time."

"No worries. Are you free tonight? What about we meet up at Platinum Café at eight?"

"Sure."

Since Nancy reached out to her and invited her for dinner, Charlotte's curiosity was piqued. She wondered what Nancy wanted to do.

"See you tonight then," Nancy said before ending the call.

Charlotte looked at her phone as her brows slowly furrowed. She was confused.

Lupine looked equally bewildered. "How did she know who we are? We saw to it that no one knew our real identities back at Pillere. Only Sir Louis, Mr. Nacht, and Mr. Murphy knew about us."

"As she said, she would find out if she wanted to," Charlotte explained, unfazed, "The Gold family has been establishing their presence in the business world all these years. I won't be surprised that she bought Mr. Murphy into telling her the truth."

"But I don't understand why she wants to see you," Lupine thought aloud, "Is she openly challenging you?"

"Ha!" Charlotte burst out laughing. "What is there to challenge? We're not even in the same game."

"You are! You're her love rival," Lupine pointed out, "But wait, isn't Mr. Nacht with her? Why is she asking you out?"

"It means Zachary did not go to see her," Charlotte elucidated, pouring another cup of tea. "It will be tricky if I make an enemy out of her. She is a difficult one."

“Why?” Lupine genuinely did not see her as a threat. “Is it because of her family background?”

“Not just that,” Charlotte said with her gaze lowered, “Although I don’t know her well, I have a gut feeling that she’s different from those I’ve crossed paths with.”

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Chapter 1295 Facing Off

“So you’re really going?” Lupine asked softly, “Do you think we should ask more people to come along? What if she pulls some tricks?”

Charlotte smirked. “It’s no big deal if she does that.”

“What are we doing then?”

“Go and check if the soup is ready.” Charlotte changed the topic. “Peel a few potatoes too. I’m making some spicy and sour shredded potatoes. Dr. Felch loves it.”

“Okay.” Lupine went right into the kitchen and got to work.

Meanwhile, Charlotte continued boiling her tea until Hayley got back from the market. She had bought some pears for Dr. Felch.

Charlotte asked her to leave the pears with her and started making some pear stew.

Dr. Felch slept through the whole afternoon and did not wake up until the sun set at six in the evening. Sam was baking him some sweet potatoes when Lupine brought him some soup.

Charlotte had made a few dishes and everyone gathered in the courtyard for dinner.

Not long after everyone started eating, Bruce arrived with his men. Charlotte asked them to join them for dinner, but he said they had already eaten. He went over to Lupine and passed her a pair of car keys. "Mr. Nacht asked me to bring an extra car for you guys. Do you need anything else?"

"Nope, we're good. Thanks."

Lupine poured them some drinks and the men thanked her.

"Charlotte, you should go home earlier. The children are still waiting for you at home," Dr. Felch said as he ate, "Remember to bring them over tomorrow."

"I'm not even done eating yet. Why are you in a hurry to send me off?" Charlotte said begrudgingly, "You didn't even thank me for making all this food. How could you do this to me?"

Dr. Felch laughed out loud. "Come on, I'm just worried about you and the kids."

"I know. I'll get going then."

Charlotte put down her cutlery and went to wash her hands before coming back to bid everyone goodbye.

"See you, Ms. Lindberg," Bruce said.

After making sure that Charlotte and Lupine had left, Bruce went back to the courtyard and passed Zachary's health report and treatment plans to Dr. Felch.

Sam lighted a candle so Dr. Felch could see clearly, but still, the old man's eyesight was failing him.

Bruce explained everything to him patiently as the old man nodded weakly. "I'll take a look into it."

Over in the city, Lupine drove to Platinum Café and let Charlotte off.

Charlotte used to come here a lot when she was together with Hector.

She still visited this restaurant after they broke up since it was right opposite Zachary's company. She would always come here with Zachary back when she was still working at Nacht Group.

Charlotte realized Nancy had booked the whole place the moment she went in. All the waiters and waitresses were different.

There were even four bodyguards at the door and there were more inside the restaurant.

Nancy was on the phone with someone when Charlotte arrived. When her subordinate went over to her seat beside the window to inform her of Charlotte's arrival, she quickly hung up and stood up to greet her guest. "It's been a long time, Ms. Lindberg."

She was polite and humble.

"It's a pleasure to meet you again," Charlotte said with a smile.

"The pleasure's mine," Nancy replied with a nod. "Have a seat."

When Nancy saw that Charlotte had only brought a bodyguard with her, she asked her men to step away, leaving behind just two of them.

She even apologized to Charlotte after that. "I'm sorry. My dad's a little paranoid."

"It's fine. I can understand." Charlotte took up a napkin and wiped her hands. "When did you reach H City?"

"I came in the morning," Nancy replied accordingly without taking her eyes off Charlotte, "You look way more stunning in person."

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Chapter 1296 Facing Off 2

"I hope my photo didn't disappoint you."

Charlotte knew Nancy must have done a detailed background check on her before meeting her.

“I’m sorry for being intrusive,” Nancy said with her head low, “I was really curious about you after meeting you at Pillere. I could not get my mind off the woman in the veil, so I asked my men to run a check. That’s how I found out about you.”

“There are only that few who know about my real identity,” Charlotte pointed out as she took a sip from her cup. “You must be really influential to get information about me that easily.”

“Well...” Nancy looked uneasy. “They know I don’t mean harm. I hope you don’t blame them.”

Charlotte smiled and looked at her. “Why do you want to meet me?”

Nancy took up her cup and drank. “I just want to make a new friend.”

“You can be honest with me.” Charlotte looked at her watch.

“I’ll just cut to the chase since you’re in a hurry.”

Nancy put down her cup and gestured at her subordinate, who instantly came forward with a silver box.

It was a document.

“This is a document about F Nation’s Gymnasium Project. Someone invited me to join this project to replace you,” Nancy said solemnly with a slight smile.

She took a look at Charlotte before she continued, “My family is looking into international ventures and I’m interested in this project, but I’m not interested in fighting with you over something like this, so I would like to know what you think about this.”

Charlotte evaded Nancy's gaze and clenched her jaw. She knew Nancy was not just referring to the project. She was referring to Zachary as well.

"Ms. Lindberg, I'll gladly decline this offer if you're still interested in this project, but if you're opting out, which is what they told me, then I'll consider joining."

Nancy poured Charlotte another cup of tea as she waited for her reply. "I will respect your decision, Ms. Lindberg."

Charlotte fixed her eyes on the cup without answering. She knew full well what Nancy meant.

Charlotte was able to read in between the lines and saw through Nancy. The project was not the real reason why she wanted to talk to Charlotte.

This woman is indeed different from those I've met before. She's clever and calm.

"What do you think, Ms. Lindberg?"

"I don't think it matters to you whether I continue on with the project or not." Charlotte finally took up the cup. "What annoys me is that these people seem overenthusiastic in finding me a replacement."

Nancy stared at her for a second. She could not decipher what Charlotte was getting at.

"You shouldn't be talking to me, Ms. Gold. You should be talking to the people who made you this offer. Besides, it's all about competing on a level field when it comes to business. There's no right or wrong."

"Competing on a level field?" Nancy was surprised. "Is this what you really think?"

"Yes. I'm unapologetic about fighting for the things that I deem as important. I like competing head-on in a fair and square manner instead of using underhanded ways, but if my opponents want to play dirty, I'll play by their rules."

Charlotte went straight to the point. Although she sounded calm as a cucumber, her words sounded deterrent.

“Understood, Ms. Lindberg.” Nancy smiled with a confident nod. “You really impress me. You have my word. I like a fair competition too. No cheating and no hard feelings.”

“Great.” Charlotte’s brows arched in a pleasant surprise. “All the best, Ms. Gold.”

With that said, she put down her cup and motioned to leave. “Thanks for your treat. We should meet up over some beer the next time. It’s on me.”

“I’m looking forward to that. Let me see you out.” Nancy stood up.

“Don’t bother. I’ll see you next time.” Charlotte turned and left.

Nancy sat back down in her window seat as she watched Charlotte leave. She felt things were going to take an interesting and unexpected turn.

Behind her, her subordinate came up and reported, “Ms. Gold, that’s Mr. Nacht’s car.”