Mr Nelson 161

Chapter 161 A Heartless Woman

Edmund couldn't help remembering the days after he'd just divorced Chelsea, and he was in a constant rage. He was able to find his daily clothes, ties, cufflinks, and other accessories as they were in the dressing room, but he was entirely at a loss about the location of other living goods. He wanted to drink water, but he had to rummage through a pile of cupboards in the kitchen for a long time before he was able to find his usual cup. He wanted a cup of coffee, but after fiddling with the coffee machine for a while, the taste of the coffee was still dissatisfying. Chelsea put away almost all things because she liked keeping the house tidy.

He got a wound on his finger once and wanted to find a Band-Aid, but he couldn't find it after rummaging through the large house. He got so angry, that he kicked over a nearby cabinet. Chelsea's selfishness annoyed him. When she wanted to marry him, she was fixated on it until she got what she wanted. When she no longer wanted to be with him, she made a fuss to divorce him. She even made it quick and fast. As a result, he seemed like a loser with zero life skills. If she had just a bit of good conscience, she would have told him where everything was before leaving.

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Humph! Such a heartless woman!

Yusuf took a glance at Edmund who was lost in thought and slowly said, "I think if things continue to roll this way, Luka might really end up with Chelsea."

"You said what?" Edmund came to his senses.

Yusuf tapped his chin. "Luka appreciates Chelsea's talent in her career and gives recognition to her ability. He stepped forward to express his love to her when she was in trouble. He was there for her psychologically, caring for and supporting her. He took care of her when she was not feeling well. He even cooked by himself. This is an excellent way to pursue a woman, Edmund," he concluded.

Edmund stopped smoking.

They were all silent for a while, then Chris looked at him and sincerely added, "Chelsea didn't get a lot of care from you, Edmund. If she gets treated well by another man, she would be easily moved."

Yusuf agreed. "That's correct. There is a popular saying now. If you love a woman, you have to spoil her so much that other men cannot manage her standards. That way, she can never leave you."

Nodding heavily, Chris seconded Yusuf's statement. "Whereas, look at you, Edmund." Edmund never showed Chelsea love. He instead gave her endless coldness and indifference. Chris wasn't trying to irritate Edmund with the last sentence. Edmund had to know how he had treated Chelsea.

Edmund took a deep drag of his cigarette. Their words were cruel, and he felt a little flustered.

Yusuf went on, "Why did you take that bouquet to Chelsea? Can you tell me why?"

Flicking the ash from his cigarette, Edmund nonchalantly said, "She used to arrange flowers at home, I thought she liked..."

"Why do you suddenly care about her preferences?" Yusuf asked with a smile. Edmund pressed his lips together, and Yusuf finished candidly, "You need to carefully crosscheck your heart and find out the exact feelings you have for Chelsea."

Those closely involved in a relationship could not see as vividly as those outside. As bystanders, Yusuf and Chris could both notice the change in Edmund's attitude to Chelsea, however, Edmund himself had not. Being his good friends, they had to point this out to Edmund to make him see his heart clearly. They didn't want him to lose Chelsea again.

Chapter 162 Suitable Men

Edmund glanced at the two but chose to remain silent.

The two of them remained silent as well. They all knew that Edmund seldom expressed his true emotions. He was the sort of man who kept his feelings to himself.

Yusuf commented on Edmund's character in his mind. He appreciated how calm he was. But the truth was, inside his heart, thunder was rolling. He was simply good at pretending.

Before the dinner was over, Alena called Edmund.

Edmund hadn't answered Alena's phone call the whole day. She had rung him up several times. Knowing she would find this rude, he chose to answer it now.

Before he could ask her what it was about, she exclaimed, "Edmund, there is a charity dinner this weekend."

At the mention of an event, a frown creased Edmund's forehead. "I can't attend the party. I am quite busy at present."

Edmund knew the plan that was stirring in Alena's mind. She definitely wanted him to take Diana as his female companion and then strengthen his connection with her!

Since he had made his mind clear to Philip, he saw no reason to agree to such an arrangement.

Alena was shocked to hear this. After a short pause, she went on, "I would like you to take Sonya to the party so that she can meet some outstanding men."

Edmund wasn't buying this lie. "Is that so?" he asked with a tinge of mockery.

Alena sighed again and said, "Didn't you say that she was thoughtless and always made trouble? I think it would be best for her to find someone suitable to marry rather than suffer in abroad."

Edmund was amused by his mother's words.

Alena was suggesting he take Sonya to the party. If he agreed, the person who would go with him would be Diane, not Sonya. He knew this for a fact.

Besides, his mother did everything she could to stop Sonya from going abroad. She even intended to find a match for Sonya in Vertoak.

But Sonya had a bad reputation in the city. People knew she changed her boyfriend as frequently as she changed her clothes. No decent man would volunteer to marry her.

Sonya and Alena were quite picky and wouldn't settle for a man from an ordinary family.

So, it wouldn't be easy to get Sonya married.

Edmund took a deep breath and said calmly, "Mom, I have to disagree here. I think you have more chances of finding an excellent man for Sonya than I do. You should take up the responsibility of Sonya's marriage. I am pretty sure I don't have a suitable candidate for her."

In short, he had kindly rejected to take Sonya with him.

Truth be told, the men he knew had outstanding disposition. None of them deserved to be punished to marry Sonya!

Before his mother could argue, he said, "I'm still having dinner with my friends. Talk to you later."

After Edmund hung up the phone, Yusuf asked, "Is the charity dinner your mother mentioned the one of

the film association? If that's the one, I am pretty sure Chelsea will be there."

Edmund, who hadn't thought of this, was rendered speechless.

Chris quickly echoed his opinion, "I think so too. Since she is a scriptwriter, she will definitely attend such an event."

Edmund couldn't help as some negative thoughts crawled to his head. If Chelsea was going, she would definitely go as Luka's female companion.

Yusuf continued, "To be honest, Chelsea looks amazing after she takes an effort to dress up."

Edmund gave him an icy glare. At the mention of this, he remembered the anniversary party of the Nelson Group.

The party was simply his biggest nightmare.

Chapter 163 I Loved And Paid

Edmund still remembered the very moment he saw Chelsea at the anniversary ceremony, she was in a scarlet red dress that glimmered with every step she took. Her enchanting red lips had reminded him of exquisite wine. Even then, he could still remember her cold, resolute look. One that he had never seen on Chelsea's face before.

Ever since that day, Edmund had instinctively steered clear of women in bright clothes or those who had vibrant red lips.

She had thrown the divorce papers at his face in front of so many people. Not only disgracing him by the action but also creating a permanent scar in his heart that ached every time he thought of it.

Sensing Edmund's venomous glare, Yusuf raised his hands in surrender and apologized with a smile, "I'm sorry. I shouldn't have mentioned it."

Only then did Edmund's face soften a little.

The dinner went on into the night. After Edmund checked his phone more than a dozen times, Yusuf asked curiously, "Is there something wrong?"

Edmund replied, "What do you mean?"

Yusuf pointed at his phone and said, "You keep looking at your phone. It seems like you are waiting for something."

Edmund didn't know how to respond to that.

How could he say that he was waiting for Chelsea's text response?

With how violently he had reacted at her place, Chelsea should have sensed that he was angry. The least she could do was send him a message to ask him what was wrong.

However, he still hadn't received any message from her.

It seemed that Chelsea didn't care whether he was angry or not. His disappointment at the thought was evident.

She didn't care about him anymore, so it didn't bother her if he was angry or not.

Unlike before, when his happiness, anger, and sadness affected her too.

"Nothing." Edmund sighed.

Yusuf and Chris gave each other a look but said nothing.

After the dinner, Edmund drove away first. While Yusuf went with Chris.

After thinking for a while, Chris sighed, "I guess he can't accept the fact that Chelsea is being indifferent to what happened tonight."

Obviously, both Yusuf and Chris knew the real reason why Edmund kept checking his phone.

Yusuf leaned against the car lazily and said, "I think he still doesn't get it. That Chelsea is treating him as a stranger. He still thinks that Chelsea will always care about him."

Chris stretched out his arms in exhaustion. "Will he get the idea when Chelsea finally finds someone else?"

"Who knows?" Yusuf shrugged. He could only imagine how angry Edmund would be if that ever happened.

Chris sighed, "If he understands the situation only by then, it would be late."

Chelsea had been so submissive back when she was with Edmund, so he had probably believed that she would always be around him, clinging to him.

Because of that, Edmund was still arrogant.

Edmund's anger was the farthest thing from Chelsea's mind. On the contrary, his rudeness made her

blood boil in rage. When Edmund had helped her drive away Hilton and his son, she had unconsciously started warming up to him.

But when he slammed the door tonight, she realized that no matter what happened, he would never change.

His pride and self-centeredness were something he would never get rid of for anyone.

On Saturday night, Chelsea and Zuri were getting ready for the dinner party.

Chelsea was wearing a dress that Zuri had picked out for her. It was a simple black dress, that hung low revealing her back a little.

Zuri had said that Chelsea's back was smooth and beautiful, that it was something worth showing off.

Zuri, herself was absolutely stunning in a golden evening dress that emphasized on her shapely figure.

She was outstanding even among the other female stars. Anyone who stood beside her would be naturally overwhelmed by her beauty.

Since the drama Zuri and Orlando starred in was being aired, Orlando had to attend the party with her as her escort.

Even though Zuri didn't like the fauxmance part at all, she couldn't change the reality of the world they were in.

That was the way in the entertainment circle. Once something was airing, the male and female protagonists would pretend to be a couple to attract high ratings and add to the fantasy of those who watched the show. There was no way around it.

Chelsea felt a little embarrassed at the thought of seeing Orlando again. The last time, he had beaten the assistant director and gotten into trouble for her. She still hadn't gotten over the guilt from that day.

When she was being scolded by the netizens, Orlando called her and said angrily that he would support her and stand with her against them.

Frightened by how much chaos that would have caused, Chelsea stopped him.

If Orlando had made a public announcement on Twitter about her, she would have been scolded even more as the netizens' attention turned towards his post. She would have been torn apart by his fans when she went out the next day or even murdered in her sleep.

Knowing what Chelsea was thinking with just one glance, Zuri smiled and said, "Why are you so afraid of seeing him? Just enjoy the love from that young handsome man calmly."

Chelsea felt a little helpless when she heard that. Then, Zuri added, "It's just the beginning."

Confused, Chelsea asked, "What?"

Holding her shoulder, Zuri looked at the charming Chelsea in the georgous black dress in the mirror and said seriously, "It's just the beginning of people pursuing you. There will be a lot of men lining up for you in the future. You have to learn to be calm in the midst of it all. Have you forgotten how popular you were when we were still in school?"

With her chin on Chelsea's shoulder, Zuri sighed, her eyes still on Chelsea in the mirror. "In senior high school, so many boys chased you, and even more in the university. If you hadn't loved Edmund first, you could have found a boyfriend who loved you very much. Someone who took care of you."

Chelsea was beautiful and gentle. She had been the dream girlfriend of many.

In the eyes of those who loved Chelsea, she was a treasure. Something that was supposed to be cherished.

However, Edmund had never thought of her as that. He had never thought of Chelsea seriously. And just thinking of that made Zuri angry.

Chelsea's thoughts drifted away with what Zuri said until all she could see was the past before her eyes. She also remembered the time when she was crazily pursued by boys.

At that time, she had been confident and sunny. And the world was full of roses back then.

After she met Edmund, all her confidence went down the drain bit by bit.

But she had never regretted.

She looked at herself in the mirror and said to Zuri with a smile, "I loved him with everything I had, and I didn't regret it."

She had loved and paid. Although she got hurt in the end, her conscience was clear.

Without knowing how to persuade her, Zuri complained, "You are so good. Edmund has an ex-wife who have never cried or made drama for him. He is so lucky."

Hearing that, Chelsea could only laugh out loud.

There were people and things more interesting than love and romance in the world. She wanted to experience them, to move on.

Chapter 164 Supposed Gatecrasher

Chelsea was to attend the party, and so was Diane.

However, Diane showed up there with Sonya. Edmund vehemently refused to be her date for the party, so she had to go with his sister to save face.

Attending this party with Sonya would signal to the public that she had a good relationship with her future sister-in-law. Maybe the day she married into the Nelson family would come soon.

Diane wore a long white strapless dress that set off her attractive cleavage. She accessorized with shiny silver jewelry. Her face was fully made up.

It was common for actresses and other female celebrities to dress in this manner. They always put in their best for such occasions. Everything Diane had on exuded her class and wealth.

On the other hand, Sonya had on a light pink dress that complemented her beauty.

The moment they stepped their feet into the banquet hall, several women flocked around them.

One of them shyly smiled at Diane and uttered, "Good to see you, Diane. Why didn't you come with Mr. Nelson today?"

"That's because he's very busy. My brother is a workaholic. Thank goodness Diane is an understanding woman," Sonya replied in Diane's stead.

Diane pursed her lips and smiled gracefully. "Well, it's my duty to be very understanding of my man. I think men should focus on their career."

Sonya took the initiative to speak for Diane today because Alena had told her to. She was here to help her maintain a good image.

In return, Diane promised Sonya that she would always have her best interest at heart and that she would help her get into Edmund's good books once she married him.

It was a good deal for Sonya. Although she didn't lack money, her brother was fond of cutting down her monthly allowance whenever she did anything that he frowned upon. She didn't want that to happen again.

Since she was Diane's ally, she was confident that she would get good benefits once Diane got married to Edmund.

The women had no reason to disbelieve them, so they reasoned that all was still well with the relationship between Edmund and Diane.

Another woman glanced at Diane's flat belly, leaned over and whispered curiously, "You suddenly quit

acting without giving us a reason. Are you pregnant?"

This question made Diane's heart skip a beat. The next second, intense guilt tugged at her heartstrings.

A fake pregnancy was what she used to sow discord between Chelsea and Edmund in the past. Edmund didn't know what she did. She was hell-bent on taking her wrongdoing to the grave. If he found out what she did, she had no idea what excuse to give or how to face him.

To make matters worse, Edmund had never had sex with her. How could she have fallen pregnant?

Diane responded with a faint smile, "No, I'm not pregnant. Stop talking nonsense."

The other women laughed heartily. Afterward, they asked her to send them an invitation once she set the date for the wedding.

Diane's faint smile froze on her face. As she was thinking about her current situation, her hatred for Chelsea increased at this moment.

Speak of the devil! Diane screamed in her mind. She was gritting her teeth in fury when she suddenly caught a glimpse of her greatest rival who had just come into the hall. Chelsea came in arm in arm with Luka. She looked so beautiful that her sudden appearance turned heads.

Diane's jaw dropped at the sight of Chelsea. She stared at her without blinking for what seemed like ages.

It was hard to believe that Chelsea who always looked simple was the same woman that just walked into the hall. The change in her appearance was out of this world. She looked like a queen.

At this moment, Diane recalled the night of the Nelson Group's anniversary party over a year ago.

After Chelsea stormed out of the auditorium after her surprising speech, Diane happened to hear the whispers of some of the employees. They described Chelsea as a drop-dead gorgeous woman who their boss had been hiding for three years.

One of them even commented that Chelsea was more beautiful than the actress who was always pictured with Edmund in public.

Those words set off a bomb inside Diane at that time. She wanted to turn around and scratch the face of the person who said it. However, she clenched her fists tightly and worked to remain calm.

Sonya also caught sight of Chelsea. She pulled Diane aside and said angrily, "That bitch is here. Why is she so shameless? Why does she think she's qualified to attend this party? What a gatecrasher!"

Chapter 165 His Sudden Appearance

Diane gave a sneer of disgust. "Luka is taking her with him. It looks like she is his favorite scriptwriter."

Sonya curled her lips in disdain. "Perhaps she has also climbed into Luka's bed. She seems to know these dirty tricks very well."

With a snort, she went on, "I'll ask her about it."

Diane quickly pulled her back and said, "Don't be silly."

With confusion etched on her face, Sonya asked, "Why?"

"Don't risk being mean to her. It will only lead your brother to be angry with you." Diane seemed genuinely concerned about Sonya. Sonya was moved, but she still had difficulty suppressing her urge to annoy Chelsea.

Chelsea, on the other hand, was least bothered about these two ladies. She wouldn't take them seriously. They were no one to her.

Luka introduced her to many producers, famous directors and senior scriptwriters. Chelsea was preoccupied with social engagements, so she didn't see the icy glare with which Diane and Sonya were looking at her.

After a round of introduction and greetings, Luka pulled Chelsea aside so that the two of them could relax for a bit.

Lowering his eyes to look at Chelsea, Luka said gently, "You are going to make a name for yourself. I'm sure that in a while Peak Entertainment won't be the best choice for you. When you become an independent scriptwriter, these connections will come in handy."

Chelsea stared at Luka in surprise. She hadn't expected he would want her to become an independent scriptwriter in the future.

Although she devoted herself to her career, this was something she had never considered. To begin with, this wouldn't fit her personality.

And then, she wasn't an ambitious person.

But most importantly, it was Luka who gave her an opportunity to become a full-time scriptwriter and sent her abroad for further education. She would always be grateful to him.

She swore to herself that she would do everything she could to help Peak Entertainment.

Luka had read her mind and said with a smile, "I know you don't plan to become independent, but I've been in this circle for so many years that I know that will be the best for you."

Given Chelsea's talent, she would have a bright future. He would definitely not keep her confined to Peak Entertainment.

Chelsea was touched by his words. Her eyes were glistening with tears. "Thank you," she said.

As the two stood staring at each other, Yusuf clicked a picture of them.

He sent it to Edmund and then wrote, "Will you come? If you won't, I am afraid Luka will take her. Just look at them! He must have cast a spell on her. She looks so moved."

Yusuf knew he was exaggerating a little too much. But if things went on like this, there was a high chance that Luka and Chelsea would end up together.

And then his dear friend Edmund would have to wallow up in self-pity and regret.

About twenty minutes later, Edmund, clad in a black suit, arrived at the dinner party. His expression was icy cold.

His elegance could be seen in his gait. Everyone knew him as the most popular business man in Vertoak. His appearance caused quite a stir.

Sonya was flirting with men whereas Diane was chit-chatting with a group of ladies.

When they saw Edmund, one of them turned to Diane and asked in confusion, "Didn't you say that Mr. Nelson wouldn't come today?"

Edmund's sudden appearance had indeed shocked Diane.

She couldn't help but wonder why he was here. Did he change his mind because he came to know Chelsea was here? This was a thought that set her on fire!

She was quite certain he wouldn't pay her any attention. It would indeed be embarrassing for her in front of all these people!

<u>Chapter 166 A Potential Embarrassmen</u>

The smile on Diane's face froze. In an embarrassed tone, she said, "I think he just finished his work."

One of the women commented, "Wow, that's great. He must have come to pick you up. What a considerate man. He came to be with you once he was done with work. You are so lucky, Diane!"

"Yeah, I'm with you on that! Diane is beautiful. Many men want her. I'm sure Mr. Nelson wants to keep her for himself before the dubious men here snatch her away. Aw!" another woman uttered, smiling brightly.

These flattering words were supposed to make Diane blush uncontrollably. However, she couldn't because her relationship with Edmund wasn't good as the outsiders thought. No one knew that Edmund actually wanted to break up with her.

Despite that, Diane still believed that Edmund would compromise sooner or later. Her father was on it. She firmly believed he would make the marriage happen by hook or by crook. Her father was powerful and influential, and had helped Edmund's family, after all.

Diane had reasoned that it was only a matter of time before Edmund thought it through and gave her a positive response. This was why she still behaved as if all was well with them in public tonight.

However, she didn't expect him to appear here. He had told Alena that he wouldn't attend the party.

They were yet to talk things through, so Diane was afraid that he would ignore her in front of this crowd. She would die of embarrassment if he did.

"Ermm... Excuse me, ladies. I have to use the ladies' room now," Diane quickly said.

She immediately turned around and walked away to avoid getting humiliated by her so-called fiancé.

The first thing Diane did once she hid in the bathroom was to call Sonya. The phone rang for a while, but Sonya didn't pick up. Perhaps she was happily chatting and flirting with a man.

"What a useless girl!" Diane cursed under her breath. Sonya was supposed to help her at the party. Not only was she useless now, but she was also nowhere to be found.

Diane was at her wit's end now. She was stuck in the bathroom because she couldn't go out to face a potential embarrassment. She hated Chelsea even more.

Diane bit her lower lip hard until she sustained a little cut. "I must get my revenge on that bitch for disrupting my perfect life!"

Meanwhile, the women who had been chatting with Diane moments ago, greeted Edmund when he got close to them. One of them said, "Hello, Mr. Nelson. Diane just went to the bathroom."

Edmund shot the woman a blazing glare. He walked away without saying a word.

The woman held her chest and said to her companions, confused, "Oh my! Did you see that? He just gave me a murderous look. I thought he would be pleased with that piece of information. But it seems I shouldn't have mentioned Diane's name at all."

Staring at Edmund's back, another person said, "Who knows? Perhaps they had a lovers' tiff. I still don't get why Edmund likes Diane. She's so pretentious and mean. Why does a man like him want to settle

down with her?"

Diane wasn't well-liked by the people in the film industry. Another guest echoed, "That's right. I wonder what he sees in her. She only became a popular actress because Edmund helped her get major roles."

The film industry was jam-packed with several beautiful and talented actresses. Diane wasn't an indispensable talent.

The major roles she played were the reason why she became popular. And Edmund was the one who helped her secure those roles.

Nevertheless, Diane considered herself to be a wonderful actress whose acting beat the other actresses' acting hands down. She felt that her beauty and skills were what made her stand out.

Edmund's mind was set on something else. He didn't come to see Diane, so he didn't care about what that woman said. He was walking straight to Yusuf when he caught a glimpse of Chelsea.

She was wearing a long black dress. At this time, she was standing beside Luka and chatting with a group of people with a bright smile on her face.

The makeup she had on made her look extraordinarily beautiful. Her eyes were smoky and breathtaking. A luster that Edmund had never seen before, shone in Chelsea's eyes.

"Dude, did you teleport to this place? You came so fast!" Yusuf looked at him in surprise as he handed him a glass of wine.

Only a few minutes had passed since he sent Edmund the message. He didn't expect him to arrive here in a trice. Yusuf couldn't help but reason that Edmund was indeed in love with Chelsea.

Chapter 167 A Thumbs Down

Edmund didn't want to rise to the bait after Yusuf teased him. With a cold face, he brought the glass to his lips and took a long sip. But he spat out the wine a second later.

His eyes widened in shock. They had just fallen on Chelsea's exposed back as soon as she turned around.

Edmund had been looking at her front since he arrived. He felt that the dress was simple and glamorous.

It was so long that it touched the floor. Although it was an off-shoulder dress, he didn't have any issue with it since her breasts weren't exposed.

Never did it occur to him that Chelsea's back was exposed.

It was bare for all to see. Her smooth and delicate skin was very eye-catching.

When Edmund noticed that some men were stealing glances at his ex-wife's back, he was pissed off.

Yusuf stepped back to dodge the wine that was just spat out. He squinted at his friend and queried, "What's wrong with you? Why do you look so startled and pissed?"

Yusuf followed Edmund's gaze until his eyes landed on Chelsea's bare back. He immediately understood the reason for his friend's weird reaction. "Don't react like that. She has been here for a while and everyone has seen her dress. In truth, she is rather conservative compared to how the other women here dress."

Yusuf felt that his friend was overreacting.

However, Edmund's mood was not lifted by Yusuf's words. His annoyance was heightened when Luka suddenly put his arm around Chelsea's waist and pulled her closer.

As if he was trying to add fuel to the fire, Yusuf quipped, "By the way, Chelsea's back looks so good!"

"Shut the fuck up! Swallow your dirty words, man," Edmund commanded, his eyes blazing crimson.

"How are my words dirty? Can't I compliment her?" Yusuf innocently asked, raising his free hand.

Edmund snorted. The only thing that stopped him from punching Yusuf in the face was their friendship. If it were another man that said such words, he would have beaten him to a pulp.

Edmund suddenly began to walk towards Chelsea and Luka, still holding the glass of wine. Yusuf followed him curiously.

Unbeknown to them, Chelsea had already noticed Edmund's presence a while back. She intentionally turned her back to him.

She had hoped she wouldn't meet him on such an occasion because she didn't want both them getting embarrassed.

Diane and Sonya were also here. Little did she want to have any connection with them.

Chelsea thought her plan worked until Edmund walked up to them. She bit the inside of her lower lip before she plucked up the courage to look at him with a decent smile.

Luka immediately exchanged pleasantries with them. "Hello, Mr. Nelson and Mr. Collins. Good to see you two."

"Wow! Chelsea, I could barely recognize you. You look so beautiful." Yusuf flattered her without hesitation. Flattering women was his forte.

Chelsea nodded with a smile. "Thank you."

On the other hand, Edmund sneered and uttered with dissatisfaction, "You are a scriptwriter, not an actress, Chelsea. Don't you think it's rather irresponsible of you to wear such a dress? Or did you intentionally do it for cheap attention?"

Yusuf nudged his friend in a trice. His face turned red with embarrassment.

He had set an example by complimenting Chelsea first. He thought Edmund would follow suit. But it appeared that his friend was an ignoramus.

Luka calmly watched everything with a faint smile on his face.

A wave of fury swept through Chelsea's body when she heard her ex-husband's criticism. Her fingers tightened around the stem of the wineglass. If she exerted more strength, the glass would get crushed.

In Chelsea's opinion, her dress wasn't over the top, let alone inappropriate.

Her back was the only part exposed. As far as she was concerned, her dress was less revealing than that of the other women who exposed their breasts for all to see. She wasn't trying to get men's attention. How dare he say that she was irresponsible for dressing like this?

Diane's cleavage was exposed. Her dress even had a high slit that exposed one of her thighs. Why didn't he complain about that?

He didn't because he had no balls, right?

Chelsea reasoned that Edmund only had the guts to pick on her.

She felt that he was comfortable with calling her names because he had no respect for her.

Chapter 168 Intense Remorse

Chelsea had a strong urge to empty the glass of wine she was holding on Edmund's face for insulting her.

However, she restrained herself. It wasn't wise to get angry because of such a man.

With an unfazed expression, she looked into Edmund's displeased eyes and said calmly, "You are right. I wore it to attract attention. I want everyone here to know that the scriptwriter who wrote the play is not only talented, but also drop-dead gorgeous. It would help bring in more investors and also make me popular. What's so bad in that?"

Chelsea had no intention of changing the way Edmund thought of her. She decided to act like an unscrupulous woman since he already placed that label on her.

Besides, she couldn't understand why he was angry. They had nothing to do with each other. He didn't deserve an explanation as far as she was concerned.

Edmund didn't expect that she boldly admitted to dressing inappropriately. He was momentarily rendered speechless.

Indescribable emotions flickered in his eyes as he stared at Chelsea for a while.

Sensing the heated tension between the two, Luka weighed in. "Ahem! Chelsea and I have something else to do. We have to go. See you guys later."

Luka immediately turned around and pulled Chelsea away with him. She obediently went with him without sparing her ex-husband a second glance.

Once they got away from Edmund and Yusuf, Luka asked worriedly, "Are you okay?"

He was shocked that Edmund could say such mean words to Chelsea.

It came as a surprise to him because the Edmund he knew wasn't rude or condescending towards women. Why did he speak to Chelsea in that manner?

After thinking for a while, Luka arrived at a conclusion. He reasoned that Edmund probably behaved like that because he cared so much about her. His criticizing words probably didn't come from a place of hate.

"I'm fine, Mr. Pierce. Thank you," Chelsea replied with a smile.

She was indeed fine.

Although Edmund's words had angered her at first, her fury was quelled after she fired back at him.

Luka sighed deeply. "It seems Mr. Nelson likes to pick on you. I find it hard to tell if he's doing it out of love or hatred."

Chelsea laughed with self-mockery. "Tsk, tsk! It can't be out of love. I'm sure his actions are coming from a place of hatred. He resents me so much!"

She firmly believed that Edmund scolded her because he hated her.

A few meters away, Yusuf took a sip of wine and asked Edmund in confusion, "Why do you both like hurting each other?"

The exchange between the former couple surprised Yusuf. Although Edmund started it by saying such hurtful words, Chelsea's defiance also struck a nerve.

The fact that she didn't bother to explain things to Edmund or defend herself meant only one thing: she didn't give a damn about him.

Nevertheless, Yusuf felt that Edmund deserved it.

Why did he scold and accuse her instead of complimenting her? It served him right!

Chelsea's appearance today actually took Edmund's breath away. But he had the urge to keep her body away from the eyes of other men. He feared that they would make passes at her because of her dress. He cared about her safety. But he couldn't help blurting out those harsh words.

It was typical of him.

Regret filled his heart at this moment. A remorseful glint shone in his eyes. He felt so frustrated.

Edmund couldn't understand why he made so many mistakes whenever he appeared in front of Chelsea. No one had made him so frustrated and confused in his thirty-two years of life.

Yusuf patted him on the shoulder and uttered earnestly, "Friendly advice, you have to be careful with your words and actions from now on. You shouldn't treat Chelsea like you did in the past. Otherwise, your relationship will get worse."

Yusuf then walked away to go make new friends, giving Edmund room to think things through.

After ruminating on his friend's advice for a while, Edmund raised his head and downed the content of his glass. He had just finished gulping it when he saw Diane walking toward him.

Diane had spent almost an hour in the bathroom. She called Sonya several times, but she got no response. She had no choice but to come out with her heart beating fast.

All she had in mind was to avoid those ladies and go to look for Sonya.

To her dismay, they saw her as soon as she got out. They beckoned to her to join them again.

Diane gritted her teeth. She was sick of them. On impulse, she decided to meet Edmund instead.

It was a good escape from those ladies and also an excellent opportunity to have a heart-to-heart talk with Edmund.

After flashing them a faint smile, she majestically walked towards her so-called fiancé.

Chapter 169 Breaking Up

Diane watched as Chelsea left with a long face. Edmund too was frowning like he had a fight with Chelsea. Diane breathed a sigh of relief. It excited her to see that Edmund and Chelsea were not on good terms with each other.

Holding up her skirt hem, she hurried over to Edmund. He looked at her coldly and asked, "What is it?"

Diane's eyes reddened. She pleaded with Edmund in a soft tone, "Edmund, we need to talk, please."

Edmund took another glance at her and walked out of the hall. Diane followed him. The moment she stood still as they got to the garden, outside the hall, she began to sob. "Edmund, I acknowledge my mistake. I promise never to disturb Chelsea again."

Edmund replied unconcernedly, "This has nothing to do with Chelsea. It is about you and me."

This made Diane cry harder. Edmund continued, "Diane, we had a relationship in the past. Four years ago, we broke up. I tried to get back with you after my divorce, but I found out we were not compatible."

Four years was a long time. Enough time for the emotions between a couple to fade away. Edmund's words were totally unacceptable to Diane. She lurched at Edmund, grabbed him tightly by his arm, and cried, "Edmund, I can't live without you! I'll do anything you want me to do. I'll change if you need me to do so."

Diane held on firmly to Edmund, but Edmund pushed her hands away from him without emotions and left with his mind made up.

Raising her hands to cover her face, Diane burst into tears. She had broken up with Edmund and then gone into the entertainment industry with so much excitement. She expected Edmund to wait for her but he didn't. If she had known, she'd have married him earlier, instead of breaking up with him. Unfortunately, some things could not be changed.

Her tears had ruined her makeup, so she decided to go fix it in the bathroom. As she got into the bathroom, she ran into Chelsea who had just washed her hands and was about to leave.

Diane's face was stained with tears and this surprised Chelsea. Her impression of Diane was that of steady glamour, elegance, and dignity. Why did she look different today? It wasn't something she should be concerned about anyways, so she turned to walk away.

Seeing Chelsea, Diane remembered the embarrassment she just experienced and this put her in a rage. She lunged at Chelsea and pulled her. "Stop there!"

Chelsea almost fell to the floor from Diane's pull, but she stood her ground and instead, shook off Diane's hand. "Are you insane?" Chelsea asked Diane in anger. She had avoided them throughout the night. She only exchanged a few words with Edmund and they parted ways in conflict. How then did she

offend Diane? She was confused, as it was strange.

In a high-pitched voice, Diane asked, "It's your fault that I have gone crazy."

With arms crossed over her chest, Chelsea said with a sneer, "Don't tell me that you and Edmund are not on good terms. You can't be seriously disturbing me because of your misunderstanding."

Diane snapped back at her, "Weren't you the one that wrecked the relationship I had with Edmund?"

Chapter 170 Diane's Past Scheme

"Ha-ha-ha!" Chelsea threw her head back and laughed out loud. Her laughter was filled with mockery and sarcasm. It wasn't until Diane gritted her teeth and grunted in anger that she finally stopped.

Chelsea said to Diane sarcastically, "Oh! You know how it feels now? Tell me, did you ever think of me when you always rubbed your relationship with Edmund in my face and sent me a fake pregnancy test result just to destroy my marriage?"

Chelsea narrowed her eyes to slits. The smoky makeup she had on made her look fierce today. Diane's heart skipped a beat after she heard those aggressive words.

In her eyes, Chelsea was someone she could trample on at any time she liked.

Now that Chelsea was staring daggers at her and speaking so ferociously, she was shocked and slightly scared at the same time.

"You!" Diane pointed at Chelsea. Her tongue was tied. A tornado of fury was rising inside of her. At this moment, her shoulders trembled as she tried to suppress her anger.

Chelsea's words hit the bull's-eye. It was true, so Diane was extremely embarrassed.

In a bid to destroy the marriage of Chelsea and Edmund, she had gone to great lengths to frustrate Chelsea. All that was in the past now in her opinion. Never did it occur to her that Chelsea would fight back one day.

Folding her arms over her chest, Chelsea continued, "You should thank your lucky stars that I'm not as vile as you are. Although you caused me a lot of pain, I chose not to do the same to you. I have told you times without number that I have nothing to do with Edmund except for working on a film project that he's sponsoring."

With pride glittering in her eyes, Chelsea added, "What the hell makes you think that I want your man? Do you think I'm not contented with the men who pursue me? Or that I'm not satisfied with being a scriptwriter who has her career on the right track? There are many people and things that make me happy now. Why do you think I want Edmund back after dumping him? You like him. Why do I have to like him too?"

There was a disgusted expression on Chelsea's face as if the disgust in her words wasn't enough to show how she felt about Edmund. Not only was she making her stance clear, but she was also mocking Diane's choice. Diane exploded with rage.

"How dare you..." Diane was just about to fire back at Chelsea when the door of the bathroom was knocked from outside.

Chelsea calmly opened the door only to find Edmund standing on the other side with a frosty expression.

At the sight of him, Diane's legs felt wobbly. She had to hold the washstand for support. In contrast, Chelsea was unfazed by his sudden appearance. She smirked and stared at him.

Judging by the icy expression he had on, she guessed that he heard her conversation with Diane. Perhaps the part where she mentioned the pregnancy test result was what got to him the most.

It wasn't Chelsea's intention to mention that information in front of him. It was rather unexpected that he found out like this.

On second thought, she reasoned that nothing stayed hidden forever. It was time for Diane to suffer the consequences of her actions.

Edmund didn't come in. Otherwise, he would be labeled a pervert for entering the ladies' bathroom.

Standing at the door, he stared at Diane coldly and asked, "What fake pregnancy test result were you two talking about?"

Diane shook like a leaf. Her makeup was already smudged and her face was pale with fear. Anyone who saw her in this state would be shocked and scared.

A quarrel was brewing. Chelsea didn't want to get caught up in it, so she decided to leave. She believed Diane could explain it to Edmund since it was her handiwork.

"Where do you think you are going?" Edmund grabbed her arm and pushed her back into the bathroom once she got a foot out the door.

"Ouch!" Chelsea frowned slightly. It was obvious that he was angry since his grip around her arm made her feel pain.

"Let go of me, Mr. Nelson. This matter is between the two of you. It's none of my business, so I need to excuse you," she said calmly, trying to wriggle free.

Edmund held her more tightly. With his voice raised, he asked, "Chelsea, you are joking, right? Why did

you just say this matter is only between me and Diane? She faked a pregnancy test result to destroy our marriage. How is it none of your business?"