

Chapter 63 She's My Woman

Just as Kaleb was about to grasp Isabel's arm, a firm hand suddenly latched onto his.

Following the grip, Kaleb met Xander's piercing stare.

Xander's expression was frosty, and his commanding presence instinctively made people want to back down.

A surge of unease shot through Kaleb; he had anticipated that Xander would shrink under his glare, yet it was he who wavered.

Isn't this the guy Isabel brought in to provoke me? How could someone who seemingly sold out so easily emanate such a chilling and powerful energy?

The air of sophistication surrounding him felt as if it had been sculpted in the upper echelons of society.

No way. I must be imagining it. Kaleb was familiar with many prominent figures in Solaria's elite, and after scrutinizing him closely, he was sure there was no one quite like Xander among them.

This guy had to be putting on a facade!

With that thought, Kaleb's face morphed into one of contempt as he glared at Xander.

"Let go of me!" he barked.

Xander's dark eyes narrowed, revealing a flicker of something ominous within their depths.

"She's my woman."

That simple declaration made his claim clear.

Upon hearing those words, Isabel stopped in her tracks, instinctively turning to Xander. His steadfast gaze and serious demeanor made her heart race.

Kaleb's anger reached a boiling point as he shot daggers at Xander. "Who do you think you are?"

"Let her go!" Kaleb raised his voice again, attempting to break free from Xander's grasp.

But Xander tightened his hold even further.

"Ah—ahhh!" Kaleb's face contorted in agony, sweat streaming down as his complexion shifted to a dark hue. He glared at Xander in fury, his wrist caught in a punishing grip.

"Damn it, let go!" Kaleb snarled through clenched teeth.

Xander's expression remained icy, his fierce gaze unyielding as he applied more pressure.

"Ah—ahhh!" Kaleb cried out, nearly collapsing to the ground, his hatred for Xander boiling over.

Just then, Isabel stepped forward and grasped Xander's arm.

"Please, let him go."

Xander took a deep breath, instinctively tightening his grip on Kaleb's wrist.

"You're defending him after everything he's done to you?" Xander snapped, frustration bubbling beneath the surface.

Kaleb's determination softened as he looked at Isabel, warmth replacing his earlier coldness. She still cares about me ...

Isabel shook her head, addressing Xander. "Defending him? After his treatment of me? I'm not insane."

"Then what are you—"

"I just think it would dirty your hands." Isabel interrupted.

Upon hearing this, Xander felt a warmth spread within him, like the gentle sun of spring melting the frost, heralding vibrant flowers and joyful melodies.

"Is that really how you feel?" Xander's eyes sparkled with barely contained delight.

Isabel was momentarily captivated by his smile, realizing her resistance to his charm was fading.

Before she could respond, Xander released Kaleb's wrist; he didn't need Isabel's answer. The look she gave him was enough to satisfy him.

"Get in the car." Xander opened the door for Isabel.

"Okay." Isabel nodded.

"Isabel!" Kaleb shouted, cradling his wrist as he called out to her, his voice laced with anger and urgency.

Isabel didn't even glance back at Kaleb as she slid into the car, shutting the door behind her with a quiet finality.

As the car drove away, Kaleb took a few steps forward before coming to a stop, frustration boiling over inside him. He was seething, unable to find an outlet for the storm of emotions building up.

"Kal!" Eva came rushing out of the venue, clutching her wedding dress, her face stained with tears.

Laurel was right behind her, her gaze filled with concern as she addressed Kaleb. "Kaleb, don't let that heartless woman get to you. Those videos are fake, they must be! That vile girl just can't stand seeing you and Eva happy together. You need to go back inside and finish the ceremony—the guests are still waiting."

Finish the ceremony? Kaleb's frown deepened. He didn't want to doubt Eva, but the footage they had all seen looked real—too real to be easily dismissed as fake.

Still, Isabel had connections to Hacker Z, and with skills like that, it was entirely possible the video could've been a forgery.

Kaleb's thoughts were in chaos. Laurel had destroyed the USB drive that might've allowed him to verify the footage, and if Isabel was indeed scheming to ruin his relationship with Eva, digging deeper might only drive a wedge between them.

Eva might not blame him if he had the video verified, but Kaleb knew that lingering doubt could leave a lasting scar on their relationship.

"Kal ... " Eva's voice broke through his thoughts, her fingers gently tugging at his hand, filled with desperation.

Feeling overwhelmed, Kaleb turned to her and sighed. "With everything Isabel's done today, maybe we should just reschedule the wedding."

Eva's face went pale, as if she'd been struck. The words stunned her into silence, but in her chest, a deep hatred for Isabel flared.

So this is how Isabel wants to play? Fine, then. An eye for an eye. I'll make sure she learns the consequences of crossing me!

Inside the car, Isabel glanced down at the ring on her finger. It didn't seem to be worth much—probably something Xander had picked up on a whim before coming to the wedding.

Noticing her focus on the ring, Xander's voice broke the silence. "Do you like it?"

"It has a nice design," Isabel answered honestly.

Up front, Leo caught a glimpse of the ring in the rearview mirror, his surprise clear.

He had noticed how differently his boss treated Isabel, but he hadn't expected Xander to give her a ring so soon.

As Leo's thoughts wandered, Isabel removed the ring and handed it back to Xander. "Thanks for stepping in earlier," she said.

"You don't like it?" Xander didn't make a move to take it back.

"I do," Isabel admitted, "but it's not really mine." She pressed the ring into his palm.

Xander arched an eyebrow, exhaling slowly before sliding the ring back onto her finger.

"A gift isn't something you take back once it's given."

Seeing how resolute he was, Isabel chose not to argue. The ring didn't seem all that valuable, so she figured there was no harm in keeping it.

Before long, the news of Johnson Group's CEO's interrupted wedding splashed across headlines, fueling gossip that refused to die down. Eventually, Kaleb had to spend a hefty sum to bury the story, and it slowly faded from the spotlight.

Isabel set down her phone and turned her attention to Samuel's leg. "Alright, it's about time. Try standing now."

"Right now?" Samuel blinked, looking startled.

Just as Xander descended the stairs, he noticed Isabel attending to Samuel.