The Unshackled Queen: Never Say Never Online Free

Chapter: 111

"How does this implicate me? You're trying to frame me! I rarely stay in that dormitory. My whole class can vouch for that!

For all you know, someone could have sneaked into my room and used my computer."

Many who watched the unfolding drama live noted Sadie's disarray, transforming her expression into meme-worthy content shared across social media platforms.

"She seems so unnerved. I bet she's the one who started the gossip.

How could she manipulate people like that? At least the beautiful lady is sharp."

"That lady's impressive. Not only is she articulate, but she also knows her way around computers. Did anyone notice she's adept at tech?"

"Wait a minute! Look at her online profile. She's a racecar driver!

And not just any driver, she's the renowned beauty of the racing world, Tequila! Incredible!"

Such comments drove countless individuals to explore Hannah's online presence.

Hannah had only shared three posts in the past, all showcasing her victories in notable national racing events.

The most recent post depicted her, trophy in hand, her long hair dancing in the evening breeze and a soft smile playing on her lips.

While initially met with disparaging remarks, the tide soon turned, with adoring comments from newfound fans.

"Oh my God! She's not only stunning but also incredibly talented behind the wheel! What a woman!"

"I wish I had even half her skills!"

"I'm in love with her! Is she seeing anyone?"

"She's breathtaking!"

Within mere hours, the narrative on the web shifted.

Cameras and microphones turned to Sadie, firing away.

"Miss Edwards, considering your brother is a prominent businessman in Valmere, why are you here, causing a scene with a schoolteacher? Is it because she's your brother's ex-wife?"

This question hit Sadie like a dagger, draining the color from her face, leaving her speechless.

Yet, the reporter persisted, "Miss Edwards, could you shed light on the tension between you and Miss Moore?"

In the office, all eyes were on Sadie. Some gazes held suspicion, others contempt, and a few seemed eager to see her blunder.

Sadie had never felt so wronged. She yearned to flee the room, but she was hemmed in, escape seemed impossible.

Gritting her teeth, she shot a glare at Hannah.

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"You've set me up!

I can get the police involved!"

"Save the call."

Lydia's clear voice rang out as she parted the crowd and stepped forward. Arching an eyebrow at Sadie, she remarked, "I've already brought the police. If you have a defense, now's your chance."

Following Lydia were several police officers in uniform. Calmly, she addressed one, "Officer, this woman spread false rumors online. I suggest you take her for a thorough investigation."

The officer in charge saluted them, then showed Sadie his badge.

"You're accused of defamation and spreading false information. You'll need to come with us."

Seeing the police, panic consumed Sadie.

"My brother is Declan Edwards! You can't just detain me!"

But her protests were in vain. The police escorted her out as the parents, realizing they had been misled by Sadie, silently dispersed.

The school board member rose and remarked to the principal, "The Edwards family represents other parents at Halliday University. This isn't good. Such a family shouldn't be representing us."

The principal grasped his meaning. The Edwards family would be ousted from elite school circles, and reentry wouldn't be easy.

Following the scandal, Edwards Group's stocks plummeted by 5 percentage points!

In the midst of his frantic work, Declan got a distraught call from Leah, urging him to fetch Sadie from the station.

Eliana listened on until Leah ended the call. She gently massaged Declan's temples, murmuring, "Sadie made a mistake, but she's still young. This isn't entirely on her. I hadn't foreseen the gravity of the situation. I assumed Miss Moore would caution Sadie, knowing her fiery nature. Even if she bears grudges against us, taking it out on Sadie is unjust. If only she had warned Sadie sooner, given that this all began with one of Sadie's outbursts. Sadie was simply naive, not anticipating any manipulation."

Her brow creased, voicing her concerns.

"Declan, you shouldn't overexert yourself for the firm's image."

A hint of anger simmered within Declan as he retorted, "She's the kind to go to any lengths to get her way! Your heart's too pure. You can't fathom the depths of her wickedness."

Lydia was with Hannah at the police station, jotting down notes.

Hannah presented the officers with all the evidence she'd gathered.

Despite being under the watchful eyes of two officers, Sadie's demeanor was defiant.

"Just wait. My brother will be here any minute, and he'll set you straight!"

Hannah, a soft smile gracing her lips, inquired of an officer, "Officer, what's the potential sentence for someone spreading malicious rumors and defaming, thus harming my reputation and rights?"

The officer answered with a sense of seriousness, "Defamation carries a sentence of up to three years in prison."

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Hannah turned to face Sadie, a smirk playing on her lips.

"Congrats!

You might just be behind bars until you've earned your degree."

A shade of fear washed over Sadie's face, her confidence wavering.

As if on cue, Declan and Eliana walked in. Declan warned, "Don't push it, Hannah."

Upon spotting her brother, tears welled up in Sadie's eyes.

"Declan, save me!"

But before she could rise, she was restrained by the officers beside her.

With quivering lips, Sadie sobbed out to Declan, "Declan, she's wronged me!"

Declan's icy stare settled briefly on Hannah, then shifted to the officers, declaring, "We wish to post bail for her."

His lawyer began to step up, but an officer halted him with a raised hand, stating, "Given the evidence at hand, she's facing a jail term and isn't eligible for bail at the moment."

Sadie was in shock, unable to believe she couldn't secure her release.

She clung to Declan's shirt and sobbed loudly, "Declan, help me! You just can't leave me here!"

Declan was irritated. He looked at Hannah and asked, "Is there room for making amends?"

"Making amends? Now you ask?" Lydia, sitting beside Hannah, scoffed, "Where were you when Sadie was busy ruining Hannah's reputation online? Practically invisible, that's where."

"Miss Phillips, it's not on Declan. We only found out today," Eliana interjected, holding Declan's arm.

Facing Hannah, she continued, "Miss Moore, if you have any qualms about the prior divorce agreement, you can speak directly to Declan.

There's no need to use this as an excuse to hurt Sadie. We can renegotiate terms. The Edwards family won't mistreat you."

Narrowing his eyes, Declan glared at Hannah.

"Hannah, I really misread you. You're ruthlessly opportunistic!"

"Shame on you! It's you who..." Lydia fumed.

Hannah silenced her indignant friend. She turned her gaze on Declan, posing a question.

"Was it me who had her post slanderous stories about me online? Did I pay people to spread rumors about me on social media? Or invite reporters and school board members to the principal's office?"

Hannah smirked, disdain clouding her eyes.

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"Declan, you've failed to discipline your sister. And now you blame everyone but her?"

Observing Hannah's expression, Declan's brow furrowed.

"If you had guided Sadie earlier, would she be in this mess? She's young, she doesn't know better."

"Young? She's 20," Hannah retorted, laughing at Declan.

"She's an adult who should know better than to engage in cyberbullying. She leaned on the Edwards family's wealth and influence, believing that regardless of the chaos she caused, you could always resolve the situation."

Eliana interceded, addressing Hannah.

"Miss Moore, it's not like that.

Sadie is merely spoiled, not malevolent. Why escalate things over a disagreement with Declan?"

Hannah offered a casual smile to Eliana and remarked, "Miss Patel, your ability to mix up right and wrong is still intact. I have better things to do than deal with you."

Hannah stood up, nodding at the police.

"All evidence has been provided. Thank you."

Sadie's sobs and pleas continued, imploring Declan to save her.

Outside the station, Lydia shook her head and said, "Eliana is so infuriating. All these people are repulsive. They blame you when you're the victim."

"Let it go. Let's grab a taxi and leave this behind," Hannah replied.

Her phone buzzed as she spoke. She saw it was a call from Bryson and answered.

"Mr. Mitchell?"

"I saw you trending online. Looks like you've handled things. Need any help?"

A genuine smile spread across Hannah's face.

"No, thank you. I've submitted all the proof to the authorities, and Mr. Brown is backing me. They can't even secure her bail."

"Alright then." Grinning, Bryson announced, "I've reserved a spot for us at Avendez Restaurant tonight. Feel free to bring a friend along."

Glancing at her watch, Hannah appeared hesitant. The voice on the other side of the call continued.

"Mr. Ramsey will handle the upcoming school issues. Grace wants to meet you. Are you available?"

Recognizing it was Grace who wanted to see her, Hannah promptly agreed, "Sure, text me the location. I'll head over with my friend later."

"Alright."

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The call concluded. Grace lounged on the couch, cradling a teddy bear.

She tilted her head and toyed with the bear's head, saying, "Bryson, why do you always use me as an excuse to see Hannah?"

Smiling at Grace, Bryson inquired, "Don't you also want to meet her?"

"I definitely do." Grace pouted cutely.

"Hannah is so kind and gorgeous. How could I not miss her?"

Regrettably, the planned dinner had to be canceled.

Hannah sent Lydia home first, then hailed a taxi to Bryson's house.

As the butler escorted her inside, she seemed tense.

"Why is she having trouble breathing all of a sudden? Has the family doctor been summoned?"

"Yes, the doctor is here. Miss Grace is using an oxygen mask in her room. I'll take you to her."

"Alright."

To her relief, upon her arrival, Hannah found Grace in good spirits, conversing with a girl beside the bed.

"Hey, Hannah!" Grace's eyes sparkled when she saw Hannah. She waved Hannah over, saying, "Come on in!"

Hannah quickly moved to Grace's side and grasped her hand.

"Did you get a blood test? Let me see how you're doing."

"There's no need to worry, Hannah. It was just an allergy. I've taken my meds. Did I frighten you?" Grace offered Hannah a reassuring blink.

Relieved, Hannah shook her head.

"No, I'm just glad you're okay. What caused the allergic reaction?"

"It was the cookies I baked. Grace has always enjoyed them without any issues. But the doctor says she's a bit vulnerable now, even milk could set off an allergy. I'm the one to blame."

Only then did Hannah's eyes fall upon the unfamiliar young woman in an apricot dress sitting at the edge of the bed. Her hair rested softly on her shoulders.

The girl stood, guilt coloring her features. She carried a gentle and elegant air about her. Meeting Hannah's gaze, she introduced herself courteously.

"You must be Miss Moore, whom Bryson asked to look after Grace. My name is Melina Glyn. Please, call me Melina as Bryson does."

Returning the smile, Hannah replied, "Feel free to call me Hannah."

Beaming, Melina added, "Both Bryson and I have been caught up with work. We appreciate you looking after Grace."