Never Say 458

Unable to counter Tasha's enthusiasm, Hannah relented and followed.

"Omar, look who I've brought!" Tasha announced to Omar, warmly draping her arm around Hannah.

Maintaining a neutral expression, Hannah glanced at the man occupying the table's central seat and freed her hand from Tasha's grip.

"This is your acquaintance?"

Unaware of Hannah's unease, Tasha ushered her to an open chair.

"Meet my cousin, Omar Morrison. Beside him is my future cousin-in-law, Winona."

Winona's lips curled in a barely concealed sneer.

"Ah, we've crossed paths before. Miss Moore, you're quite the go-getter, always eager to climb the social ladder."

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Tasha looked at Winona, eyes wide and innocent.

"Omar wanted me to extend an invitation to Miss Moore. Don't you like her, Winona?"

Grinning slyly, Omar stayed silent, letting Hannah squirm in the uncomfortable silence.

People from affluent families nearby shot Hannah disapproving glances.

They had a vague idea of her past. Even without the details, it was clear she had been shunned by the White family.

"What a coincidence," Winona said, her smile barely there.

"I bumped into Valery just now. I invited her to join us for some fun. She'll be here shortly. It could be a good opportunity for you sisters to catch up."

Just as Winona's words hung in the air, a voice that was both sweet and grating sounded from a short distance away.

"Winona, there you all are! Oh, I'm running late. I should penalize myself with a drink!"

Valery had barely settled into her seat and reached for a cup when Winona spoke, her smile mischievous.

"Hold off on that drink for a second, let me introduce you to someone you might recognize."

"What?"

Valery's gaze followed Winona's pointed finger, and her expression shifted when she locked eyes with Hannah.

"What are you doing here?

Do you even belong at this table?"

Hannah arched an eyebrow ever so slightly.