Never Say 493

Hannah quirked an eyebrow, then glanced at the person who had earlier insisted the diamond was a fake.

"Yet she claimed it was fake and even said she could vouch for it. I've got her statement on video."

The young girl retreated in fear next to Johanna.

"Johanna, I... I may have been wrong! I didn't intend any harm! Why is she making such a big deal out of it?"

Offering a sympathetic gaze toward Hannah, Johanna said, "Hannah, she's young. Could we not make a fuss over a trivial matter?"

"Actually, no."

Hannah offered a sly smile.

"I'm getting older, and I've grown fond of debating with the younger crowd."

Bainbridge spotted Mary Sloan and identified her as an ME employee.

His face altered, regretting how he had hastily judged Hannah before.

The party was bustling with guests. Desperate not to lose face, Johanna tried to appease Hannah.

"Hannah, I'll get her to apologize.

Don't let this upset you. She is also a student of our university.

Bad news could affect her too."

Angela's Library

Unfazed, Hannah replied, "What about the impact on ME? She claimed ME sold fake jewelry. Do you realize the implications?"

She then turned to the rumor-spreading girl.

"How much can you pay if compensation is required?"

The girl hid behind Johanna, her complexion ashen and her voice absent.

Passing the pink diamond to Mary, Hannah said, "It's clear I'm not welcome here. Enjoy the party. I won't be a bother."

Hannah turned around and exited alongside Mary, with Edwin and Bainbridge trailing behind her.

"Hannah!" Bainbridge intervened.

"I messed up today. I judged you too quickly. But Johanna had good intentions inviting you. No need to hold her responsible for my mistakes."

Hannah zoned in on the point of his statement.

"So, are you blaming me or apologizing?"