Never Say 501

"The newly appointed director of the White Group, Hannah Moore. You may refer to her as Miss Moore."

It was clear Brewster was already in the loop. He extended a gracious hand toward Hannah.

"Miss Moore, your reputation precedes you. Meeting you today confirms all I've heard."

As they conversed, Johanna joined them, saying, "Ah, Hannah, so you're here today! Excellent, I can show you something new. I bet you've never experienced a car race. I'll have Bainbridge take us later."

Following Johanna, Winona gave Hannah a cold stare.

Angela's Library

"Why bother exposing a country bumpkin to something she won't understand?"

"Let's not be harsh, Winona. Hannah is one of us now, so it's our duty to help her," Johanna replied.

Caught off guard by the sudden appearance of the two women, Brewster steered the conversation to racing.

"Several professional racers are here today, along with young men from wealthy Hoijery families who enjoy the sport. You're welcome to join, Miss Moore."

"I doubt she'd comprehend what's happening even if she were just spectating," Winona scoffed.

"From your tone, it sounds like you're an expert driver?" Hannah questioned, eyeing Winona.

Emboldened by her recent foray into racing, Winona couldn't resist flaunting her new skill.

"Oh, I can definitely handle a race car."

"Why not make it interesting, then? Let's have a race to see who's better," Hannah proposed.

Johanna covered her mouth, feigning astonishment.

"Hannah, don't be reckless. If you don't know what you're doing, you could get hurt!"

Hannah nodded and said, "Exactly, which is why you should keep an eye on your friend here. It'd be unfortunate if her overconfidence led to an accident."

Irritated by Hannah's remark, Winona clenched her teeth and retorted, "Don't mistake boasting for skill. I'll see you on the track!"

"Fine, meet you at the track. Whoever chickens out is a coward."

Caught off guard by Hannah's blunt declaration, a wave of red swept over Winona's face.

By now, the crowd had thickened. Edwin, Omar, and a few familiar faces gradually joined the gathering.

Spotting Omar, Winona immediately moved towards him, grasping his arm.

"Omar!"

Noticing the crowd swelling, Johanna quickly stepped in to mediate.