

## No Chance 1371

### [Chapter 1371 Might as Well Die](#)

Thomas clearly noticed the coldness at the corner of Gareth's lips and his hostile look.

If Mr. Wickam and Ms. Elisa didn't divorce, they would have been a powerful, unbeatable couple that would make others jealous. Although they are joining forces now, they still maintain a distance.

After getting seated in the restaurant, Gareth passed the menu to Elisa. "Make the order."

Elisa was discomforted by Gareth's aggressive instruction. She was about to say something but noticed Gareth holding his phone horizontally.

Gareth ignored her perplexed gaze and uttered, "Grandma wants to see it, so I'm recording a video."

Elisa remained silent, but she had some thoughts. She could compromise to make Julia happy, but how long could she and Gareth pretend to be together? It was something impossible. If they continued giving Julia false hope, Julia would end up being more devastated.

Elisa gathered her thoughts and laid them out to Gareth. "Gareth, I know you're obedient to Grandma. I want Grandma to be happy too, but we've already divorced. Our current situation... I think we have to make things clear with Grandma that we won't possibly get back together, so she won't remain hopeful. You're not young anymore. If Grandma yearns for a great-grandchild, just fulfill her wish."

Gareth had not clarified his intention, but Julia had her own perception. As such, Elisa opined they shouldn't enhance Julia's belief.

Gareth's eyes darkened. "We shall wait until she recovers." He said.

Elisa nodded. "That's my intention too. She shouldn't get agitated now."

"Mm-hmm." Gareth hummed aloofly.

Then, he kept his phone away. None of them spoke again throughout the meal.

After returning to the hotel, Gareth had not gone to find Elisa for the rest of the day.

Just as Elisa was about to go to bed, Thomas knocked on her door.

Elisa opened the door to see Thomas' anxious face. "Ms. Elisa, please check out Mr. Wickam. He seems to be unwell."

Elisa was stunned. "What happened?"

When she went to the living room, she saw Gareth lying on the couch, massaging his temples. He furrowed his brows in agony.

Elisa said nothing and directly felt his pulse.

"Gareth Wickam, do you have a death wish?!" Elisa rebuked when she realized from Gareth's irregular pulse that he had been drinking.

"I won't die easily." Gareth sneered as he was fearless of death.

Elisa shoved his hand away and ignored him. She returned to her room to take some stuff and soon came back to Gareth.

She instructed Thomas to prepare some medicine while she treated Gareth with acupuncture. While treating him, she warned him sternly, "Go ahead and try it if you want Grandma to attend your funeral. You're on medication now. Didn't I tell you to refrain from alcohol?"

If you don't listen to your doctor, you might as well die!

"I'm frustrated." Gareth uttered insouciantly.

He wasn't complaining about Elisa; Thomas would know what he meant.

Gareth had not been in a good mood after they returned from the meal. He remained gloomy and even had some alcohol. Noticing Gareth's bizarre behavior, Thomas quickly informed Elisa.

### [Chapter 1372 No One Would Be Happy Forever](#)

Only when Elisa mentioned it did Thomas understand Gareth's discomfort was due to the alcohol.

He was frustrated because Elisa put it outright, but he could never express his emotions to Elisa in the form of speech. In fact, he didn't understand the source of his frustration.

"No one would be happy forever." Elisa's face darkened, and she retorted to Gareth.

Gareth did not answer, while Thomas agreed with Elisa's remark. No one would be happy forever.

After inserting some needles in Gareth's skin, Elisa checked the medicine. When it was ready, Elisa served Gareth the medicine. "Go to bed after taking this. Thomas, keep an eye on him. Call me if there's anything."

"Yes, Ms. Elisa." Thomas answered readily.

Only Gareth and Thomas were left in the living room after Elisa left.

Thomas didn't dare to look at Gareth, knowing that Gareth intended for Elisa to stay.

"Mr. Wickam, would you like to..." Thomas spoke up hesitantly with a troubled look, worried about being reprimanded if he spoke the wrong words.

Before he could finish his sentence, his phone rang – it was a call from KKCD Casino to inform him the event was brought forward a day, which meant that the event would happen at 9 p.m. the next day.

When Thomas informed Gareth about the change of schedule, Gareth showed no expression, with his eyes remaining piercing.

He didn't care about these details at all.

...

The next day, Elisa woke up to see a few men and women waiting in the living room. The pale purple dress and jewelry set on the tea table immediately caught her eye.

When she saw Thomas walking into the room, she asked, "What is this for?"

"KKCD Casino brought the event forward."

Only then did Elisa understand what was going on.

She changed into the dress and sat cooperatively in front of the mirror for the stylists to doll her up.

It was crowded in the casino. Unlike the auction day, where every guest was assigned a dedicated seat, the guests who arrived early socialized around. Some found a seat for themselves too. Generally, all the guests had extraordinary identities and were dressed delicately.

Elisa gave Gareth a look. They spotted a seat just now. Within a minute after they sat down, a man dressed in a light purple suit approached Elisa. He was wearing a purple masquerade mask, but Elisa could recognize him instantly – it was Eden.

Thomas freaked out. Sure enough, he glanced at Gareth and noticed his expression soured.

Oh no! This is not good! Eden sure is a bold player!

On the other hand, Eden was fearless. He stared at Elisa and said, "It has been a while, Ms. Benett. May I invite you to a dance?" His smile was captivating, yet one could sense danger from his deep-set eyes.

Elisa's face darkened, knowing that their matching clothes were no coincidence. Eden was monitoring her at all times!

Seeing the man's despicable smirk, she responded coldly, "Sorry, but I'm not interested."

Then, Elisa turned away and ignored him.

Gareth's expression softened slightly as he looked at Elisa and said, "Come over."

### [Chapter 1373 Crossed the Line](#)

Elisa walked up to Gareth as he intended and allowed him to straighten out her dress.

She knew Gareth was helping her, and she was glad to cooperate with him.

Eden stood still at the spot as he witnessed the scene. His smile was not dismissed but deepened. "Ms. Bennett, since you're not interested now, I'll ask you again later."

With that, Eden walked away.

Elisa's eyes darkened. She knew Eden wouldn't leave her alone and must be up to no good.

She didn't want to wear a matching dress with Eden and became the focus of the crowd.

"Thomas, can you... Forget about it."

Elisa wanted to ask Thomas to get another dress for her but was reminded that Eden was watching her – he might change his suit as well if she changed. Her effort to change could be in vain.

She was irritated at the thought of Eden's profound smirk. As a Prince, this man is crossing the line way too much!

At the same time, she was curious about what Eden's motive was to approach her.

Noticing that Elisa wanted to say something, Thomas said, "Ms. Elisa, the event will only start in two hours. Please let me know what I can do for you."

"It's just a dress. Don't bother." Eliza shook her head as she didn't want to trouble Thomas.

Perceiving Elisa's intention, Thomas instinctively looked at Gareth, who pressed his lips and wore a solemn expression. One could not comprehend his mind through his dull eyes.

Thomas could empathize with Gareth — Gareth specially chose the dress for Elisa, yet another man dressed up in the same color as if they were a couple wearing matching outfits. Anyone would be annoyed.

"I'll get someone to send a new dress over." Fortunately, Thomas had a friend in Moranta.

Elisa accepted Thomas' suggestion.

She didn't want to interact with Eden as they were barely acquaintances. Moreover, she didn't want to become the focus of the event with him.

Since they had sufficient time, she was more than willing to change.

Just then, Elisa's vibrating phone averted her attention.

Her eyes lit up when she saw the incoming call from the poisoned man whom she had healed.

After Elisa picked up the call, the man asked politely, "Ms. Benett, my men and I are at the casino's basement car park. What's your plan?"

His address toward Elisa in the presence of his gang proved his submission toward Elisa.

"Similar to last time, follow us when we leave the casino. Then, act according to your plan."

Elisa's expression was calm, as if it was a normal conversation.

After hanging up the call, Eliza glanced around the glamorous hall filled with men and women who were faking smiles.

Gareth observed the surroundings. His cold aura deterred those who intended to fawn over him from approaching him.

Just as Eliza was about to find a place to sit, a voice emerged and caused her expression to turn ghastly. At the same time, Thomas could sense the menacing aura Gareth emanated.

### [Chapter 1374 Immense Danger](#)

"Ms. Elisa Benett, fate has allowed us to meet again. There are billions of people in the world, yet you and I met here tonight. I'd like to invite you to a dance. Are you interested now?"

Under everyone's gaze, Eden slowly walked to the center of the stage with a microphone in his hand. He faced Elisa with a provoking, wide grin.

Elisa met his gaze the moment she lifted her eyes and sensed immense danger from his eyes.

Before she could react, Eden continued speaking into the microphone. "If you're willing to fulfill my wish and dance with me, I'll tell you who that woman is."

The crowd was perplexed. What's wrong with this man? Why is he mentioning another woman before the woman he wants to dance with? Or is there some drama between this woman and the woman he mentioned?

While everyone was puzzled, Eden was well aware of the situation. He didn't give Elisa a chance to reject him. At the same time, he revealed the person who wanted to kill Elisa was a woman.

Nonetheless, the crowd couldn't wrap their heads around what was going on. As they traced the direction Eden was looking, they saw the gorgeous Elisa and knew she was Eden's target.

Staring at Eden coldly, Elisa was about to reject him when Gareth suddenly spoke up. "She's unavailable and won't agree to be with you."

With that, he held Elisa's waist.

There was a subtle change in Elisa's expression. She subconsciously wanted to break away from Gareth, but Gareth was forceful. Besides, breaking away from him at that moment was inappropriate because others would notice the rift between them.

Frustration flashed across Elisa's eyes.

On the other hand, the crowd was stirred up as they anticipated the show.

Eden's visage became overcast. Elisa didn't move, which showed her reluctance.

It was his first time being rejected in public. Not only that, Gareth and Elisa utterly embarrassed him!

Rage aroused in him, but with so many people watching, the prince of Estoccia couldn't lose face.

He had to find a way out for himself. Forcing a charming and gentle smile, he uttered, "Are you sure, Ms. Benett? I've gone this far to prove my admiration toward you. Do you really want to turn me down?"

The guests looked toward Elisa with their eyes filled with anticipation.

Some recognized Eden, while for those who didn't, they could tell Eden was not a commoner because none of the guests that night were small fries.

Besides, one couldn't get a microphone by being just capable – the person must have a special connection with the casino's owner and obtain the owner's approval.

Eden wouldn't have obtained the consent if he were an ordinary man.

Those who were unaware of Eden's identity didn't dare to look down on him.

Everyone's eyes were fixed on Elisa, awaiting her response.

### [Chapter 1375 Self-Esteem Blow](#)

Knowing that Gareth was present yet daring to dance with his date had already proven everything.

But...

Elisa could still speak so boldly!

Was it because she felt protected by Gareth?

Even those who knew some things about Elisa thought that she had gone a bit crazy.

Although she had many disguises, they were ultimately ineffective.

The Bennett Corporation was nothing compared to powerful conglomerates. It could be easily crushed.

Yet she dared to speak so boldly.

Was it because Gareth was supporting her?

But they divorced, and was there any indication of them reconciling?

Everyone had resumed watching the spectacle, eagerly anticipating the outcome of this clash between giants.

However...

Now everything seemed apparent.

After all, Elisa was unwilling, so their confrontation was pointless...

The atmosphere suddenly became tense.

Everyone looked at Gareth again.

Elisa's words were quite bold.

Everyone speculated. How will Gareth handle this?

Would he get angry or gracefully back down?

After all, one can't just directly snatch someone away.

Gareth still had his arm around Elisa's waist and showed no intention of letting go. Would Eden have to push Gareth away and pull Elisa towards him?

That would be a bit...

Everyone kept looking back and forth, excitement evident in their eyes.

The petty squabbles over girlfriends were uninteresting compared to the intense standoff between Gareth and the masked man.

At this moment, some people even wanted to provide commentary, but they didn't dare.

They truly didn't dare.

And amidst the crowd's gaze, Eden chuckled softly once again. "Liz, are you sure?"

He still held the microphone and said it before everyone, showing no signs of embarrassment from Elisa's rejection. The profound meaning in his gaze even made people unconsciously speculate.

Just a moment ago, he was calling her Miss Elisa, but now he directly used the affectionate nickname 'Liz.'

Even Elisa could feel the murderous intent emanating from Gareth beside her.

She even wondered why Gareth's reaction was so intense. Was it just his wounded pride?

She pursed her lips, remaining silent. Deep down, there was a hint of unease, but she quickly suppressed it. Before their divorce, she yearned for Gareth to fall in love with her daily. After the divorce, she never believed that Gareth would have any feelings for her.

She knew she didn't deserve it.

She also knew that Gareth never believed in her.

Putting her thoughts aside, Elisa said calmly, "I'm sure."

Eden chuckled softly, "Very well."

With just these two words, it was hard to discern any emotions—instead, these two words were said in a highly straightforward manner, leaving people feeling particularly skeptical.

Everyone thought that there might be some turmoil at the banquet next.

But... reality proved otherwise.

Instead, it left people filled with doubt.

Why does it feel like the thunder is loud, but the rain is sparse? Did this man retreat like that?

Elisa furrowed her brow as she looked at the person in front of her with vigilance. Then, Eden smiled lightly and said, "After the banquet, we can only discuss matters privately."

With that, he no longer lingered and turned to leave directly.

He left decisively, without any nostalgia, and didn't seem to have much interest in Elisa.

But...

### [Chapter 1376 Bull-Headed](#)

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#### [Chapter 1377 Tit for Tat](#)

The man's action shifted all the attention back to Elisa.

What's the deal with him?

Many felt the man was not sincere when he invited Elisa for a dance. It seemed that he had an ulterior motive.

Elisa furrowed her brows as she stared at the man leaving.

Gareth's expression was sour as he saw Elisa looking at Eden's figure. He said suddenly, "Reluctant to see him leave?"

She returned to her senses and turned to him with a confused look. "What nonsense are you saying?"

He pressed his lips together and kept silent.

Yet, he did not release the hand wrapped around her waist. They stood close together. Elisa suddenly noticed that something was off. "You can let go now."

His frosty expression seemed to turn chilling.

Just when Elisa expected him to release her, he walked ahead while holding her. She was forced to move along with him. She frowned. "What are you doing?"

"What am I doing?" Gareth laughed, but it was not out of joy.

Elisa was perplexed.

She was bewildered but more annoyed. She could not understand why he kept acting in that manner.

There was nothing between them. The only reason they were involved with each other was because of Grandma. But what was he doing?

Gareth was tight-lipped. She felt it was a waste of her time and energy to say anything else. The man would never do as she said anyway. He had always done what he wanted to, whether it was when they were married or after the divorce.

They passed by a man who had a woman by his side. The woman looked at Elisa up and down with an envious gaze.

Elisa's eyes shook as she pretended not to notice it. Outsiders could only see the surface. She could only swallow and bear everything behind closed doors.

The event continued.

Eden had left the crowd and went into the room.

He was smiling brightly on stage. Yet his expression was the opposite now that he was off the stage.

Irene called his phone before he could give orders to his subordinates.

He thought that it was not a coincidence.

As expected, Irene began mocking him. "I thought you had some ingenious idea. Turns out... You're just hitting on Elisa. Let me ask, did she even spare you a glance? Say, if this is spread to Estoccia, do you think your subjects will hate Elisa if they hear what you did?"

Eden narrowed his eyes with a dangerous glint shining in them. "You don't need to tell me what to do in my matters. You better not do the same thing as last time, or else...!"

However, Irene did not take his warning to heart as she scoffed. "Our status is pretty much the same. You should know that we are just partners. I'm not under your command!"

Elisa did not perish the other night. Irene would not miss this opportunity tonight.

Eden was enraged by her tone and said carelessly, "Let's end this cooperation then. But let me warn you, if anything happens to Elisa tonight, I won't let you go!"

He did not wait for her reply and ended the call immediately.

### [Chapter 1378 Time Bomb](#)

Irene listened to the beeping end tone in her phone. Eden's grave, cold, and sullen face kept appearing in her mind.

She was also a princess of a country. There were countless people under her!

Yet as she received such a warning from Eden, she felt humiliated. And all of it happened because of Elisa.

Her hatred for Elisa deepened. The rage in her eyes was fueled with resentment.

Elisa would die in her hand sooner or later!

...

Elisa and Gareth found a corner without anyone else.

There was a private room a few meters away.

The event had not started. They could have a little time to rest in the room without any disturbances.

Elisa immediately suggested to Gareth, "Gareth, let's go to the room."

"Alright."

He replied in a low voice and followed Elisa.

When they were nearing the room, Elisa naturally pushed the hand on her waist away.

As no one was around, they could be themselves freely.

Elisa spotted a couch and plopped onto it.

She raised her head and saw Gareth's frigid expression. She could not help but furrow her forehead.

"What's with the face?"

He picked her clothes.

They were matching colors unbeknownst to her.

Besides...

'Knock knock'

There was knocking on the door.

Thomas pushed the door open. But he had an unpleasant expression on his face.

"Mr. Wickam, Ms. Elisa, someone from the casino notified. Something unexpected came up, and the boss can not attend tonight. The banquet will be postponed until two days later. Tonight's event will just be a normal masquerade ball."

Thomas dared not look at Gareth and Elisa. When he heard the news, he felt that the casino's boss was playing them, much less the two.

As expected, their expression turned surly.

Displeased, Elisa said, "I don't want to join this ball. You stay if you want. Just remember not to drink. Thomas, send me back to the hotel first."

The casino wanted it to be brought forward, and now, they wanted to postpone it.

Who would know what tricks they had up their sleeve?

She had no patience to join the banquet. In any way, her main goal was obtaining Ganoderma Caligo, which could heal Grandma's sickness.

Now that Ganoderma Caligo was in their hands, she would return the next day if Gareth wanted to stay.

"Do you think you can leave alone when we come together?" He raised a brow and replied.

The next moment, he was standing right before her.

The tall figure towered over her, blocking all the lights.

Elisa had no objection if he wanted to leave together.

They stepped out of the casino. The group of men followed closely and cornered them into a blind alley.

One of the men looked at them menacingly and said gruffly, "Hand over the Ganoderma Caligo, and we'll let you go. If you refuse, I'll activate this time bomb in my hand!"

Elisa was pleased when she saw the situation but pretended to be frightened. "Who are you?"

She tugged Gareth's sleeve.

Gareth immediately understood and cooperated. "We offered ten trillion for the Ganoderma Caligo at the auction..."

#### [Chapter 1379 Do You Think We Are Still Being Watched?](#)

'Bang!'

Old Lace, the leader among the five men fired his gun impatiently, interrupting Gareth's words. Thomas also drew his gun but was quickly subdued by the group before he could pull the trigger.

Seeing this, the man detoxified by Elisa revealed a time bomb in her hand and held it up, warning, "Stop! You have one minute. Give us the Ganoderma Caligo, or prepare to be blown to pieces!"

Elisa feigned anxiety and suggested, "Gareth, just give them the Ganoderma Caligo. The casino owner is hosting a party in two days; we can ask him where else to get it again."

Gareth looked grim, with a furrowed brow, but said nothing.

Elisa didn't pay much heed and immediately handed over the fake Ganoderma Caligo to the man known as Terry, all while giving him a subtle nod.

Terry sneered, "You're smart and know when to back down! Consider yourself lucky this time!"

They took the Ganoderma Caligo and drove away.

"Terry, what if Boss catches wind of something fishy when we bring back the Ganoderma Caligo like this..."

Old Lace was freaking out, worried sick about the possibility of their Boss sniffing out their deeds, especially since, except for Terry, they were still stuck with the d\*mn poison coursing through their veins!

Despite their doubts and fears, Terry backed Elisa steadfastly, "I trust Ms. Benett. I saw a doctor who confirmed that I was free from poison. Ms. Benett doesn't know which doctor I visited, so collusion is impossible. Boss desperately needs the Ganoderma Caligo, and Ms. Benett has a plan. Back there, she signaled me to take all of you to her once the Ganoderma Caligo is delivered."

The others were hesitant and nervous, but they had no alternative but to follow Terry's lead.

Elisa sighed, "We were too careless. Our original plan was to negotiate with the casino owner tonight using the Ganoderma Caligo, but now..."

"We had no other choice. When our lives are on the line, discarding our plans is the only way forward," Gareth asserted in a frigid tone, his expression devoid of empathy.

Thomas waited to start the car until Elisa and Gareth settled in the back seat.

Glancing at the rearview mirror, he saw Elisa leaning back in her seat, her eyes focused on her phone, while Gareth kept his gaze fixed. Though they remained silent, the tension on their faces had dissipated.

Thomas couldn't help but ask, "Ms. Benett, do you think we're still being watched?"

"That's for sure," Elisa replied, sitting straight in her seat. She chuckled softly, "with so many people bidding for the Ganoderma Caligo and being unable to get it through legitimate means, they will undoubtedly resort to underhanded tactics!"

This was precisely why she saw potential in the five of the men.

Moreover, it was fortunate that their boss had a deep-seated distrust of others and relied on poison to maintain control, which presented an opportunity for her.

She went along with the situation, putting on a performance in front of others and allowing those around them to believe that the Ganoderma Caligo had been stolen by someone else.

By doing so, their focus would shift away from them!

### [Chapter 1380 Steadily Dropping](#)

Upon hearing her words, Thomas had a sudden realization and a smile formed on his face. He complimented, "Ms. Benett, you're amazing!"

However, Elisa didn't attribute their success solely to herself. She also recognized the great collaboration of Gareth, who was seated beside her, "And thanks to Mr. Wickam's cooperation as well."

At that moment, Thomas found himself at a loss for words because Elisa was right. Mr. Wickam's cooperation had indeed caught him off guard. However, Elisa's dedication and hard work made everything possible.

From his vantage point, he could see that they were in sync. If they hadn't gotten divorced, their relationship would have likely evolved to a more intimate stage by now.

But despite his wish to see them get back together, he never dared to play the matchmaker!

Nicole had just arrived at the casino when she received an update from her subordinate, "Ms. Tabor, the party organized by KKCD has been postponed to two days later, and it's now a masquerade ball. Many people have left because of the delay, including Gareth and Elisa."

Feeling frustrated that she had come for nothing, Nicole's expression turned grim. She immediately went to the place where Aaron was being held.

Aaron saw her and grinned mischievously, "Did you miss me, Baby?"

Nicole glared at him and asked, "What do you think?"

Aaron smirked, "I think you did."

A storm brewed on Nicole's face as she sneered at the smug Aaron before her. "Do you honestly think your disgusting smile will make me go easy on you?"

"I never expected you'd go easy on me," Aaron replied with a chuckle.

"When you're chasing after someone, it's to be expected that obstacles will arise, and I understand that you still hold a grudge. But keep in mind that fortunes can be fickle." Despite his chuckle, delivered in a hoarse tone, Aaron's arrogance showed no sign of waning in Nicole's eyes.

"Don't for a second think that your smile can fool me," Nicole retorted with a hard edge to her voice.

"You're already trapped here by me, and there's no way you're getting out anytime soon."

Aaron's smirk remained on his face, and he drew out his words, sounding incredibly wicked and dangerous as he said, "Care for a little bet?"

"On what?" Nicole asked, her brows furrowed with intense confusion.

She had kept him locked up for several days, but he had never once begged for her mercy.

There was never even a hint of fear in his eyes!

Seeing that he had piqued Nicole's interest, Aaron's smirk grew even more pronounced and menacing as he said, "Let's bet on whether or not you'll fall in love with me."

"... F\*ck off!"

Upon hearing such a bet, Nicole's patience evaporated instantly, especially considering the steamy night they had spent together that continued to linger in her mind.

If it were not for him, she wouldn't have spent the past few days anxiously awaiting the chance to mate with Gareth. If it weren't for him, she wouldn't have had to hastily escape from Elisa or play a game of cat and mouse, avoiding them at every turn!

Though Nicole was more frustrated than ever, she managed to restrain her emotions, turned around, and departed from the small, dark room. Aaron watched her go as a faint smile played about his lips.

Meanwhile, in Gareth's room, Elisa grew suspicious as she watched Thomas enter with two blankets. Intrigued, she followed him inside and was taken aback to find Gareth lying on the bed, bundled up in the two blankets.

Furrowing her brows, she approached him and gently placed her hand on his pulse. It became evident to her that his pulse was feeble and his body temperature was steadily dropping.