

Our Billion 261

Chapter 261-Kelly, who was sitting next to Lola, noticed Lola's change of expression and asked in concern, "Miss Lola, is everything alright?" "Edwin brought Catelyn here with him in front of a group of employees." "What?" gasped Kelly in shock. "Could Master Edwin have fallen for her?" "To tell you the truth, Catelyn stole Maia's fiance from here just a while ago. Her private life is so messy. The fact that Edwin stood up for her got me worried that he might have fallen for her tricks!" Lola spat furiously without hiding the hatred she had for Catelyn.

Kelly had watched Edwin grow up to be an adult, and she knew how playful he was. "I think Master Edwin is smart enough to not fall for her," muttered Kelly in response, yet her uncertainty could be heard. The meeting room door was pushed open in that instant. Everyone looked up to see Edwin and Catelyn, who followed closely behind. Edwin headed straight to the chairman's seat and nodded politely to the judges in the meeting room. "Everyone should know the purpose of our meeting today. Miss Catelyn had brought five drafts with her today, and everyone in the seat will decide if she'll be able to go into finals.

The judges nodded in acknowledgment.

Edwin then gestured for Catelyn to begin. She inserted the USB drive into the port, and following that, a colorful illustration popped up on the screen.

It was separated into five sections.

A couple reached their hands out to each other, they embraced, and then they bid farewell to each other with tears, and finally, they reunited and walked into the hall with wedding bells. A simple five pieces of art were able to interpret a couple's transition within their relationship.

The color scheme was bright and eye-catching.

"Hello, everyone. Thank you so much for giving me the chance today." Catelyn then started presenting her works.

“The man and woman in these photos are childhood friends-turned-lovers, but they broke up because of personal reasons. Later in life, they met again by accident. The man thought of their past and requested for his friend to design a set of jewelry for him, and he gifted it to her, reminding her of their past. The pair then decided to rekindle their relationship and thus reunited.” She explained and changed the slides accordingly.

The first slide was of a pair of rings with wings that wrapped around the finger.

The charms were of two hearts right next to each other, symbolizing that as long as two hearts were united, all obstacles could be broken. The second slide was of a necklace.

Instead of diamonds, however, the necklace was made with tourmaline and ruby, and the pendant depicted blooming fireworks. Fireworks were colorful and dazzling, and even though they lasted only for a short while, the preparation for the fireworks to bloom would take a lot of time and effort. Like a young, independent woman, the feelings between a man and woman did not need praise and admiration from others as they waited quietly for it to bloom.

It symbolized a relationship at its peak and most passionate phase. The third slide was of a brooch. Catelyn took the pendant from the necklace and made it a stand-alone brooch. What came after the fireworks was silence. After that were the fourth and fifth slides. Rings, necklace, brooch, earrings, bracelet-a complete set of five pieces of jewelry. Catelyn explained them one by one thoroughly. Even though Kelly was annoyed with Catelyn, she could not find anything to fault her in her presentation. The judges thus began discussing the presentation. Catelyn observed the judges’ pleased reactions and offered a polite smile, ending her presentation with a conclusion, “For me, a designer isn’t just there to create beautiful, fashionable jewelry to be worn by the customers. Our purpose is also to bring meaning into the works that we create.

“A meaningful work isn’t just unique, but it’ll also last a long time and can become a precious collection in the future. If we blindly follow trends, they’ll eventually become yet another mediocre work in time.” The meeting room fell into silence.

Chapter 262-Even though Catelyn did not try to clear her name of plagiarism, she managed to redefine the purpose of a designer. Being slandered for plagiarizing was nothing to her. After a long silence, Edwin, who had been watching Catelyn, stood up with a smile on his face and clapped. “As expected of Miss Catelyn!

You've truly opened my eyes. This presentation is definitely worthwhile." Followed by that was a sea of applause by the rest of the judges.

Lola, on the other hand, felt her face burn in embarrassment.

She had accused Catelyn of plagiarism and revoked her right to enter the competition. However, that new draft she had just presented managed to shock and impress everyone, so much so that even the high and mighty Edwin Atherton was here to support her! Lola bit her lip and stood up with a smile on her face. "I believe that everyone has no objections for Miss Catelyn to rejoin the competition?" "No objections," agreed the judges unanimously. Edwin smiled with his eyes and looked at Lola before saying to Kelly, "Aunt Kelly, please inform Grandma to leave Catelyn a spot for the finals." Kelly had no power to object, anyway. "Yes, Mister Atherton." Lola suppressed her anger and excused herself to the washroom. She did not expect Catelyn to pull it off since she had been busy fighting custody for her child with Jamie, but she did, and she did it-admittingly-so well.

Plagued with frustration, she sat on the toilet seat when the sounds of heels clicking against the floor and the sounds of chit-chats got progressively closer.

"Lola must be knocking her head against the wall right now." "She deserves it. I've never liked how arrogant she is, anyway. I heard that her mother used to be Henry Antherton's assistant and eventually became a mistress.

Her title is even worse than ours if you think of it that way! She only managed to climb onto her current title by being a bootlicker." a "I know, right? How dare she refer to Mister Atherton as her brother? How shameless!" Lola bit her lip harshly as her nails dug deep into her palms.

She was able to recognize the voices. They were both Kelly's family and were part of the Athertons. They had always been polite and nice to her, but who would have thought they would insult her behind her back.

The worst part of it was that just because they had been working under Granny Atherton for a long time, they thought they were part of the family.

manga 202 "Honestly, I feel like Mister Atherton acts differently around her." "And even though Catelyn's family was announced bankrupt, her charm and aura still topped Lola by miles." "I don't

understand what Granny Atherton sees in Lola.” Their words were like blades that ripped into Lola’s heart. She had worked so hard and put in so much effort, just for someone to say that was worthless?

Catelyn left Chandier Jewelry cheerfully, so much so that she invited Cedrick out for lunch when she noticed that he had texted her. After sending out the text to Cedrick, she immediately received a video call from her best friend, Joanne.

Joanne was a famous local celebrity, yet she had more anti-fans than real fans.

Her artis, however, were the ones that pushed her to the road of fame.

Joanne had finally gotten a more likable character to play lately and had been traveling overseas to shoot. The reception where she was at was pretty bad, so she had not been in touch with Catelyn for the past month or so. Joanne was pleased to hear the good news from Catelyn.. “Whoa! Congratulations on getting into the finals, dearest Cat! I’ll be back in the country in three days, just in time to be there and be your biggest support! Aren’t you touched? I even bought you and my dearest Miles souvenirs!”

Chapter 263-Joanne’s adorable face filled up Catelyn’s entire screen, yet she had no complaints.

“I’m super-duper touched. Please come home soon.”

Both of them bantered for a bit and Catelyn subconsciously walked past a Chandier Jewelry outlet.

Summer was their peak sales season.

The shop was filled with people, but they had implemented a ‘one staff, one customer’ strategy, so most people in there were just window-shopping.

Even though she managed to get into the finals, the winner would still have to be chosen by Granny Atherton, and only with this could an individual win the cash prize.

Catelyn thought to herself, 'Go big or go home.' Since Jamie had been giving her trouble while she struggled to get a new job, she decided to put all her effort into studying Chandier Jewelry's bestselling products.

The staff were busy with their customers and had no time to serve Catelyn, but she did not mind.

Catelyn was impressed by Chandier Jewelry's designers and noticed each of the designs had its unique points.

Two hours passed by quickly.

Most customers had left at that point. All of a sudden, a lady in her seventies walked into the shop when Catelyn had the staff show her one of the jewelry.

She wore a long, dark dress with minimal patterns on it. A cane accompanied her as she walked, and her gaze was sharp as blades. One could tell from the way she dressed that she was undeniably wealthy, if not of royalty.

The eyes of the staff that assisted Catelyn immediately sparkled in anticipation.

This woman had to be a heavy spender!

"Welcome to Chandier Jewelry, Ma'am." The staff immediately went to assist the lady instead. "How can I help you today?"

The old lady looked at the staff and said, "I'm looking for a birthday gift for a young family member of mine, and she's in her twenties. What would you recommend?"

The staff thought for a brief moment before carefully retrieving a tray of lavish gemstones with her gloved hands.

Those gemstones had just arrived and were in tip-top condition. Most importantly, they were extremely costly.

“Ma’am, what do you think of these?” The staff was afraid that the old lady might not like it and was trying her best to sway her. “Even though diamonds are still the more popular choice amongst the majority of people, these sapphires and rubies are of top grades and a rare find. Since you’ve mentioned that it’s a gift for a younger family member, she’ll surely be ecstatic to receive such a gift from you.”

The old lady had a pure jadeite on her ring finger, and it was obvious that she was well-versed in gemstones.

She glared at the staff and scoffed, “Do you usually sell your products this way?”

The staff was dumbfounded at this remark.

Had she somehow offended the old lady? Did she not like her recommendations?

“If you don’t like these, I can recommend something else for you...” The old lady looked at the nameplate on her chest and said, “Where’s your manager?”

The staff panicked in an instant. What did she do to offend her?

Catelyn heard everything and learned that the old lady was unsatisfied with the staff’s professionalism.

The gemstones that she recommended were lavish, but they were not suitable for a young lady in her twenties. They were more suitable for mature ladies, instead.

“Ma’am, why don’t you have a look at this?”

The old lady paid no attention to Catelyn at first and was slightly offended when she heard her.

Kids these days; utterly disrespectful.

However, the old lady froze in place when she saw Catelyn's face.

Chapter 264-That face looked so much like her,' thought the old lady wistfully.' No, it's just her face. It's her smile and her demeanor.

'Even the faint dimples on her cheeks are identical to hers.' The old lady stared at Catelyn in disbelief.
"What do you recommend?"

"What about this one?" Catelyn pointed her slender finger from outside of the glass window at a ring that she adored. "I've had my mind on this pink diamond for a while now, and it's fitting for a lady in her twenties. Its design is refined and luxurious, so it should be able to match your title."

The staff noticed that the old lady seemed pleased and immediately took the ring out.

"Ma'am, please have a look."

The old lady picked up the pink diamond and thought that the size was just right; it would make a surely well-thought-out gift.

She continued staring at Catelyn, her eyes filled with a myriad of emotions.

"Miss, do you mind putting this on for me?"

"Of course not." Catelyn thought nothing of this, assuming it was because she was about the same age as the person she wanted to give this ring to.

She thus stretched out her hand as the old lady held her finger and put the ring on her. The pink diamond dazzled brightly under the light.

The old lady had her eyes glued onto Catelyn as if she was looking into her soul. Somehow, her cold, stern face slowly softened into a kind and loving expression instead.

She turned around and told the staff that she wanted the ring, to which the staff carefully took the ring off and packed it nicely for her.

At that moment, Catelyn's phone rang.

She saw that it was a call from Cedrick and bade the old lady goodbye before leaving the store.

The old lady had thought of asking Catelyn's name after she exited the shop, but when she went outside to chase after her, Catelyn was nowhere to be seen.

Regret haunted the old lady.

She did not expect that after so many years, she would see a person that looked so much like that person.

"Grandma, what are you doing here?" Edwin had just left the office and came over to pick up a necklace he had reserved earlier.

He went over to help Granny Atherton as he looked at his surroundings.

"Where's Kelly? Why isn't she with you?"

Granny Atherton was getting old and would usually have a companion with her wherever she went.

Granny Atherton gave up trying to look for Catelyn and said, "I told her I'd like to be alone for a while."

"That's not a good idea! You shouldn't do it again," said Edwin sternly.

“Edwin, I...” Granny Atherton pointed in the direction where Catelyn went and said, “A young woman was with me. She looked so much like your aunt when she was young.”

Edwin looked in the direction where his grandmother had pointed.

The place was filled with people, and the girl that supposedly looked like his aunt was nowhere to be found.

Edwin thought it was just his grandmother missing his aunt again.

20 years ago, Granny Atherton had a terrible argument with his aunt because of a man, and she even kicked her out of the family because of that. No one could have foretold that it would be the last time the pair would ever see each other again.

Ever since then, Granny Atherton would call other young girls that looked like his aunt her name.

Even though he was only about five to six years old when his aunt left, he vividly remembered the way she smiled. She was probably the gentlest woman he had ever met.

The reason Lola was well-loved by Granny Atherton was that she shared a few similarities with her daughter when she smiled.

It was just a slight resemblance, though. Catelyn resembled Granny Atherton’s daughter even more when she smiled.

Of course, Catelyn came from the Clark family and had no relations with Edwin’s aunt at all.

“Grandma, it’s getting chilly here. Let’s head back.”

Cedrick was not pleased when he heard about the accusation they made about Catelyn from Edwin.

She was his woman, yet never once had she told him about these things. It was as if she was still trying to leave him out of her world, even though they had been physically intimate with each other.

Cedrick stopped his car outside of the mall where he was told to meet Catelyn and waited patiently for her.

Chapter 265-Cedrick waited for a short while before he spotted Catelyn among the crowd across the street. When he saw her a few days ago, she did not have much makeup on, but she was all dressed up today.

A handful of men would turn to get a second look when they walked past her, and Cedrick felt oddly territorial at that moment.

Honk, honk!

Catelyn saw the high beam from a Bagatti Veiron from across the street and knew that Cedrick was gesturing for her to get in quickly.

'The traffic signal is still red! Is he trying to get me to fly there or something? Isn't it a man's job to wait for their woman? Why is he so impatient?!' However, she had just gotten the invitation for the finals and was in a good mood, so she decided to ignore it.

Catelyn finally ran over and got into the car, quickly taking a seat as she buckled her seatbelt before turning to look at the backseat excitedly.

Ollie was not there. It seemed that Cedrick had planned to spend some alone time with her.

She was disappointed.

"What are we having?"

Cedrick started the engine and looked at her through the mirror. "You seem to be in a good mood today."

Catelyn patted her flushed cheeks and said, "I'm always in a good mood."

"Don't you have anything to share with me at all?"

Cedrick turned the steering wheel and turned into the main road. It was hard to tell what he was feeling from his tone.

However, Catelyn felt that there was something he was not telling her.

She knew she had to please him if she wanted to see her child, thus she answered with a smile, "Of course I do!"

Cedrick's stern face softened slightly as he asked, "What is it?"

"When is Little Ollie coming back from his grandma's?"

Cedrick turned his head and stared at her. "That's all?"

Catelyn was slightly stunned. 'Is he angry?' "What would you like to know, then?" Catelyn did not want to guess anymore.

Cedrick's face sank without uttering a single word as he drove them to an Italian restaurant.

Catelyn was not too fond of the food, though; she much preferred good-ol' diner food. She could be casual and not care too much about how she ate.

However, Cedrick had picked the place already, and she was not going to risk angering him.

Cedrick had been waiting for her to try to patch things up, but she said nothing even after the waiters took their order and served their food. She was silent and cold throughout.

Cedrick poured himself a glass full of wine and finished it.

Catelyn silently observed Cedrick as she ate from the fruit platter.

Fruit platters served in Italian restaurants were usually luxurious.

Cedrick finished three glasses of wine before finally putting his glass down.

He looked at Catelyn with a raised eyebrow. "Was it good?"

Catelyn swallowed a piece of watermelon before uttering, "It's pretty good.

Would you like some?"

She then picked up a piece of fruit and brought it up to Cedrick's mouth.

Her clear eyes seemed to twinkle at this moment, while her long lashes fluttered as she batted them.

Cedrick's heart immediately softened when he saw her face, so much so that half of his anger vanished.

Chapter 266-Cedrick opened his mouth and took the watermelon into his mouth, the tip of the fork included.

Catelyn tried pulling the fork out of his mouth, thinking that Cedrick would bite the watermelon, but he did not budge.

The end of the fork was stained with a bit of lipstick.

Cedrick stared at her meaningfully and sucked at the red lipstick mark on the tip of the silver fork cleanly.

It felt as though the fork was scalding hot at that moment that channeled its way to Catelyn's chest.

Her hand trembled, and she almost dropped the fork.

Just as Catelyn was about to excuse herself to the washroom, Cedrick let go of the fork and gracefully picked up the napkin to wipe the corners of his mouth.

A smile gradually formed on his face. "The lipstick tasted good. Do use it again next time," said Cedrick.

Catelyn wanted to scold him, she truly did, yet all that came out of her was, "This is a very expensive lipstick."

She decided to never use this lipstick ever again!

However, Cedrick did not seem to catch what she meant. "I'll buy it for you," he said, raising his eyebrows.

Catelyn was speechless. That was not what she meant!

Defeated, she decided that it was perhaps best to just be silent.

Cedrick was in a surprisingly good mood, so much so that he did not even seem to mind too much about Catelyn keeping secrets from him. "Don't forget that I'm your boyfriend now. If there is anything you wish for, you have to tell me," he reminded her.

Catelyn supposed that Cedrick probably knew what happened in Chandier Jewelry today.

"I don't want to trouble you. I know you're busy with work."

"It's not all about being happy when I'm with you," said Cedrick. He pushed the plate of cut steak in front of her and brought over the plate which she did not cut.

His movements and actions were so smooth that he looked natural.

Catelyn smiled.

Could she bear everything? She knew that she went to him for Miles' sake. It would gut her to separate from him in the future if she spent more time with him, would it not?

The moment they called the bill, Catelyn thought of paying for the meal as she was the one who invited Cedrick out. One look at the bill, however, made her eyes widen.

It was more than 4500 dollars. Why was it so expensive?

Cedrick noticed her expression and teased her deliberately, "I remembered ordering a bottle of wine," he said innocently. "Is it expensive?"

Catelyn swallowed her pride and answered, "No, it's not."

The bottle of wine was worth 4000 dollars, and to Catelyn, it was definitely expensive. To Cedrick, however, it was not even worth raising a brow.

"In that case, waiter, get me another bottle of red wine," said Cedrick.

Catelyn was speechless. She thought of her bank balance and realized that she could not bear the cost.

In a hurry, she quickly tugged Cedrick's shirt and said, "I see there's a lot of red wine stored in your estate, and there are few other better ones. Should we just forget about this?"

However, Cedrick was serious. "This bottle has low alcohol content. It's a sweet wine, so you can drink it, too."

Catelyn had a tendency to cause trouble when she was drunk. This bottle of wine seemed to be just right for her.

"Madam, your husband already bought it for you," said the waiter with a smile, apparently not aware of Cedrick's identity.

"My husband?" muttered Catelyn.

She was stunned for a moment as she realized the waiter had misunderstood their relationship.

Forget about chickening out, then. They would just get that bottle!

Catelyn had worked hard for Chandier Jewelry Competition, anyway, and surely grand rewards for entering the top ten.

Gritting her teeth, Catelyn took out her purse. Just as she was about to take out her credit card and hand it to the waiter, Cedrick's palm suddenly stretched out and held the back of her hand.

Catelyn looked at him, puzzled.

Chapter 267-"I'd never allow a woman to pay for me," said Cedrick with a smirk in his eyes before he handed the waiter a black card.

Catelyn froze. Did he just toy with her deliberately?

This man was downright infuriating!

She had told Cedrick that dinner was on her; she could not just let him pay for every date. She did not want to take advantage of him like this.

Catelyn took his black card. "It's my treat. You don't have to pay."

Cedrick's face sank. "Do you have to be so calculative about this?"

"But—"

Before Catelyn could finish, Cedrick suddenly grabbed her waist and pulled her toward him. She could even smell the scent of the wine he had drunk Catelyn was stunned.

Was he...taking advantage of her?

"You're already indebted from the moment you came to me," remarked Cedrick as he pinched her pink-tinted cheeks. His voice was low and mellow, and his eyes darkened. "If you want to be calculative with me, then I'll buy you a kiss."

This was madness!

Catelyn was so nervous that her heart raced at a breakneck speed.

There was no way out at this point. All she could do was wait for Chandier Jewelry Competition to end, and she could then find a way to return the money to him.

As soon as Catelyn came to the door of the restaurant, she heard someone calling her name.

Catelyn glanced sideways.

“Miss Clark, what a coincidence!” said Lola. She, too, had planned to come to this restaurant for dinner.

She never thought she would see Cedrick and her kissing as she entered the premises. There was a look of remorse and guilt on her face, and the arrogance she had during her previous interrogation at the police station instantly vanished.

“I didn’t expect to see you here,” said Lola. “It was a colleague of mine who disqualified you from the competition before, and it’s my fault that I didn’t find out the truth. I’m here to apologize to you.”

She then noticed Cedrick, who had just walked out, and greeted him with a pretense of surprise. “Oh, Cedrick! You’re here as well?”

Cedrick did not even bother looking at her. He handed the bottle of red wine to Catelyn. “I’m heading back to my company, so I won’t be taking you home. Why don’t you take this bottle back?”

He bought the wine after all? Catelyn thought he was joking!

“No, it’s alright, I’m not good at drinking. You can have it.” Catelyn pushed the red wine back to Cedrick.

Lola was completely stunned when he heard the conversation between the two of them.

Cedrick was taking her home? How could they have developed a relationship so quickly?

Did Cedrick even care about his engagement with Maia?

There were so many women out there, and if Catelyn could do it, so could she!

Lola squeezed out an innocent gesture. “Master Cedrick, I knew I was wrong, that I went too far in BrightGene Group that day, but Miss Clark didn’t suffer any serious or substantial harm and injury. Please forgive me, alright?”

There was a hint of sympathy in her pitiful tone of voice. However, Cedrick did not even bother about her.

He did not try to force Catelyn to take the bottle of wine. "Be careful on your way back," he said to her.

With that, Cedrick instantly walked away.

Catelyn nodded unconsciously and watched him leave before turning to look at Lola, noticing her embarrassed expression.

Chapter 268-Since both Lola and Jamie were on the same side, Catelyn did not need to please her.

However, Lola sweetened her expression and smiled at Catelyn. "I can make you the champion of the Chandier Jewelry Competition."

Catelyn was about to take a taxi home when she heard Lola's words.

She turned and looked at her with a slight smile on her face. "I've heard the winner of this competition is determined by Granny Atherton. How can you make me the champion?"

"The old lady is old and frail. Do you really think she can read all the manuscripts for the finals?" said Lola. "As long as I screen out the top selections, your design will be the best among all, and you'll be the winner."

Catelyn suddenly felt a little sick.

She knew that there would be shady tactics behind the scenes in this competition, but Lola did not seem to take the other contestants seriously, too.

"You have an agenda to have offered me this," Catelyn pointed out.

“Exactly. I like Master Cedrick, and I want you to invite him to a hotel forme.”

Catelyn could not believe her ears.

Lola still had feelings for Cedrick!

“Don’t you think too highly of me,” said Catelyn. “Why should he listen to what I say?”

“Then it all depends on you.” Lola’s tone was laced with malice as she added, “You can help me and be the champion. Otherwise, even if you managed to get into the finals by sheer luck, Granny Atherton won’t even look you in the eye!”

Catelyn sneered, and her expression darkened with disdain.

Since Lola wanted to get close to Cedrick so desperately, she would fulfill her request.

“I haven’t reached the stage where I can just convince Cedrick to sleep with you, but I can tell you that he often goes to Riverdale Entertainment Club, where he has his year-round private room.”

If Lola could cause Cedrick some trouble, perhaps Catelyn would have the chance to see her child.

Regardless, Catelyn felt that Cedrick would not even take Lola seriously.

Lola’s eyes brightened, yet her wariness remained. “Really?”

“I want to win the competition. Why would I lie to you?”

Since Catelyn has lost her job, it would be difficult for her to turn around her career if she did not win.

In this case, it seemed that Catelyn did not truly love Cedrick, that she would even do such things for the sake of winning the competition.

What a shame that he was so fond of her, too.

Back at Mason Group, at the CEO's office on the top floor.

A few documents and information laid on Cedrick's table, all of which were about Catelyn.

Catelyn clearly did not want to be with him before, but after just a few days, she suddenly changed her mind.

Cedrick was not a fool, and he could guess that something must have happened.

What was it that made Catelyn change her mind?

Charles had dutifully conducted a background check on Catelyn, but for some reason, there seemed to be a mysterious force that prevented him from investigating Catelyn's affairs, hiding many important clues away from him. All he could find were trivial little things.

"You mean that's all you've found about Catelyn?" asked Cedrick, his eyebrows furrowed tightly as he stared at the pile of documents on the table.

These documents were nothing more than just some failed attempts at job applications and some information about her entanglement with Jamie previously. Other than that, there was nothing of importance to Cedrick.

Charles was not sure whether there was someone behind him who was stopping him from checking on Catelyn, so he did not tell the truth. "My apologies, Master Cedrick. I'll continue to dig deeper."

Cedrick stroked his forehead. Did he overthink things after all?

Did Catelyn agree to be with him just to battle Jamie in their fight for child custody?

Speaking of which, Cedrick has never seen Miles even once.

As Catelyn's boyfriend, he was starting to feel a little incompetent.

Chapter 269-"By the way, Master Cedrick, I forgot to mention one more thing," said Charles all of a sudden. "Miss Clark had submitted a resume to our company ten days ago, intending to apply for the position of an architectural designer."

Mason Group comprised a number of industries and branches.

The company that Catelyn was applying for was, to be precise, Mason International Construction Co. Ltd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Mason Group.

"Applying?" asked Cedrick with raised eyebrows.

"Yes. Normally, our group's architects must have at least a master's degree, and Miss Clark hasn't even graduated from university, so she'd surely be rejected. However, the human resources department saw that she was involved in the design of the Bubsville Villa and gave her a pass."

Cedrick pondered for a while. "Let her pass the preliminary test together as well."

Charles understood that this meant that Catelyn's application would be successful.

"Yes, but... Are you planning to hire Miss Clark as a construction engineer?"

After all, the position of architect was nothing to joke about. Although Charles had been very optimistic about Catelyn, he could not help but doubt if she would be competent for such a big role.

Cedrick pursed his thin lips deeply and glanced at Charles.

Charles hurriedly nodded.

Catelyn came home that evening. As she put Miles to bed, she habitually checked her mailbox to see if there were any updates on her application.

The resumes she submitted a few days ago were all in vain, and no company dared to send her a message. However, there was a reply in her mailbox today.

Catelyn was pleasantly surprised and hurriedly opened the email.

It was from the human resources department of Mason Group!

According to the email, she had passed the preliminary test and was asked to go to the headquarters for a second test next Wednesday at 4.30 p.m.

Catelyn then remembered that after she knew that Jamie would not allow her to find a job. She submitted her resume to many companies, one of which happened to be Mason Group.

At that time, her relationship with Cedrick was not what it was at this moment. If she had known, she would not have applied for his company.

However...

No one else seemed to want to hire her. Should she just proceed with Mason Group?

After a series of conflicting thoughts, Catelyn decided to go for it.

She did not have many choices anyway, and Mason Group's employee benefits had always been pretty decent.

On Saturday, Catelyn took Miles to pick up Joanne Winters.

Joanne's return was kept a secret, so not many fans knew about it.

She had a large gathering of fans, too. Every move she made would cause a huge discussion and gossip online, and her news would appear on the hot search list of major entertainment websites.

What a queen!

Catelyn had fully dressed Miles up as they were heading out. He wore a mask, sunglasses, and a small hooded jacket. He would put on the hood in crowded places and take it off only when no one was around.

Miles was not keen about this at all.

If he was covered up like this, no one could see his handsome face anymore!

However, Catelyn still insisted for the sake of his safety. No one could know that he looked exactly like Ollie.

The airport broadcast just announced that Joanne's flight had landed.

Catelyn took Miles to the airport and waited.

Chapter 270-Moments later, a beautiful, fashionable-looking woman walked out of the airport. With a black face mask on her face and her brown curly cascading down her shoulders, she pulled along a suitcase with one hand. "Ah, my dear Miles! I've missed you so much!" Joanne happily ran toward Catelyn and Miles as she took off her mask, revealing her baby face. She threw her bag aside and picked up Miles, rubbing his face excitedly. "Why are you so cute?!" she squealed as she kissed him.

Miles was wearing a mask, thus Joanne's kisses landed on the cloth instead of his cheek. As the boy returned Joanne's hug, he silently thanked his luck that he was wearing his mask, as his godmother would always kiss him incessantly every time she returned from movie shootings.

"Godmother, you're so noisy," said Miles as he rolled his eyes coolly.

Joanne was not angry at all. Instead, she thought his remarks were very cute. "I brought you a gift. Do you like it?" she asked.

Miles disagreed. "Is it a pacifier, or a snack?" "It's a snack gift package! How smart of you, Miles, you guessed right!" chirped Joanne. "It's a specialty of the place where I filmed abroad, and it tastes very good!" She could not help laughing. Her smile was sweet and bright, it was a wonder why she even had so many anti-fans. Miles rolled his eyes again. "Your gifts are always the same. I don't know what else you could've gotten me." "Don't talk to your godmother like that." Catelyn flicked a finger against Miles' little forehead.

She and Joanne were classmates back in college.

During her sophomore year, the Clark family suddenly went bankrupt, and Catelyn's classmates, who used to be her close friends, started avoiding her.

During her lowest point of the moment, she was even chased out by her landlord, and she had to sleep on the streets.

Joanne was the only one who did not care about her family's plight and even lent her some money that she earned from her part-time commercial jobs. If it was not for Joanne, Catelyn could not imagine what would have happened to her.

How was she supposed to support Stella and Miles on her own? After all, she was pregnant during that time with twins. She could not do much in her state even if she went to work.

Miles squeezed out a reluctant smile. "Thank you for the gift, Godmother." "You're welcome!" exclaimed Joanne excitedly. She gave him another big hug, refusing to let him go.

A Catelyn pulled Joanne's luggage along, and the three of them went home together.

Joanne's anti-fans had been circulating her home address on the internet, and that was why she bought a house in Ocean Path Residence under Catelyn's name. Moreover, the house happened to be next to hers, and even their balconies were connected.

Being extravagant, Joanne had bought two lots in one go. She asked Catelyn to redesign her house, and the whole place was beautified on a whole new level.

While Joanne was abroad for her filming, Catelyn would regularly keep her room clean. Since Joanne had returned, Catelyn wanted to buy some ingredients to prepare a feast for dinner, but because Joanne suffered from jet lag, she fell asleep as soon as she got home. The next afternoon, Catelyn assumed Joanne should be awake after many hours of sleep and prepared some chicken stew in advance for her. She rang her doorbell for a while, but no one responded. Catelyn could not help but wonder where she went off to. It was only after she gave her a call and found out that Joanne had woken up earlier, called to the Barricade Club by her manager. Knowing that Joanne had to socialize a lot, Catelyn told her to be careful.

After hanging up the phone, Catelyn muttered to herself.

Barricade Club?

Her heart sank slightly It was only yesterday that Lola had asked Catelyn about Cedrick, and she had told her that he often went to the Barricade Club.