

The Divorce Prescription Chapter 191

Celine was stunned momentarily.

Nikki had been hiding behind Celine, but she stopped crying after seeing Adam. Her pale complexion gradually transformed into a charming blush, and her eyes became fixated on his striking, tall figure. She gazed at him with undeniable admiration.

After Adam left, Donald stared at Celine. "Haha. You claimed to be Mrs. Alvarez, yet it's clear that Mr. Alvarez doesn't even recognize you. You're just a liar."

Celine was at a loss for words.

Donald was determined not to waste another moment. "Get them!"

Two bodyguards in black immediately grabbed Celine and Nikki forcefully. Nikki struggled and shouted, "Let me go!"

Celine appeared remarkably composed as she carried silver needles and drugs. She planned to take Nikki away once they entered the room with Donald.

Just then, Donald gestured. "Take them to the car,"

Two bodyguards dressed in black urged them onward when, unexpectedly, a voice called out from behind.

"Excuse me, Mr. Holt."

Upon turning around, Donald spotted Noah Cobalt coming out of Adam's private room. He was the one who spoke.

"Hi, Mr. Cobalt."

"Mr. Holt, Mr. Alvarez has invited you for a drink."

Donald felt delighted at the unexpected invitation from Adam. It was a significant honor for him. "Alright. I'm heading in now."

He wrapped his arms around Celine's smooth shoulders. "Come on, join me inside to raise a toast to Mr. Alvarez. And remember to behave!"

Two bodyguards restrained Nikki outside. If Celine disobeyed, Nikki would be in danger. Hence, Celine had no choice but to follow Donald into the luxurious private room.

In the opulent private room, Celine spotted Adam occupying the central seat. He exuded an air of charm and nobility as the businessmen surrounding him filled his glass with wine.

It was her first time seeing him in such a social setting, where he appeared powerful and commanding. She hadn't expected to reunite with him after so many days in this environment.

Donald wrapped his arm around her shoulders, guiding her to a seat directly across from Adam. The other businessmen nearby couldn't help but tease him. "Mr. Holt, is she your new partner?"

"Yes. She is a student at Yorhine University."

"Mr. Holt, your preference is still the same. You're still interested in students."

The men exchanged all sorts of absurdities during the gathering. With a grin, Donald replied, "Mr. Alvarez, you'll find this quite amusing. She just claimed she is your wife."

Adam was sitting across from her. After Donald spoke, he raised his striking eyelids to meet her gaze. He looked down at her condescendingly, and the corners of his lips twitched slightly as if he were mocking her.

Celine was eagerly wishing for Donald to stop talking.

"She's truly fearless. How dare she claim to be Mr. Alvarez's wife?"

"Students today are very smart and often seek to **connect** with wealthy men."

"Many students likely want to connect with Mr. Alvarez."

The businessmen were laughing at Celine, making her face turn red with embarrassment.

Afterward, Donald raised his glass and said, "Mr. Alvarez, I toast to **you.**"

Adam reclined effortlessly, maintaining an air of dignity. He didn't return the toast. Instead, he gazed at Celine, "**Have** her come **over to toast** with this wine."

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Adam requested Celine to make a toast, leaving her momentarily speechless.

Donald also found himself at a standstill, perplexed by Adam's intention. He wondered if Adam had feelings for Celine. If that were the case, he knew he would have to step aside, as he couldn't compete with Adam.

“Why are you still sitting here? Go raise a toast to Mr. Alvarez.” Donald urged.

The other businessmen chuckled. “I’ve witnessed many students eager to toast Mr. Alvarez, but this is the first time I’ve seen someone actually get that chance.” “Hurry up. Don’t keep Mr. Alvarez waiting.”

Everyone turned to Celine, prompting her to toast Adam. She was perplexed by Adam’s intention, but she still approached him with her glass. “Mr. Alvarez, I toast you.”

Now she stood tall while Adam remained seated. Despite this, he looked down on her condescendingly, eyeing her as if he were a wealthy businessman choosing a student.

Noticing her reluctance, he smirked and asked, “Who are you? Do I have to drink the wine you toast me?”

The room erupted with laughter. “Indeed. Mr. Alvarez doesn’t drink just any toast from anyone.”

Celine was rendered speechless. She froze with her wine glass when she realized Adam was playing a trick on her. He had invited her to toast but didn’t drink, just to embarrass her.

She glared at him and turned to leave, but she unluckily tripped over the carpet as she did. She screamed as she fell to the ground, her eyes shut tightly in resignation.

She could almost hear Adam, the villain, mocking her for her fall. Yet, at that moment, a powerful arm wrapped around her waist, pulling her gently upward. She found herself enveloped in a strong and reassuring embrace.

Celine gazed upwards, only to find Adam’s striking face filling her vision. She stumbled and landed against his sturdy thighs.

His fresh, invigorating masculine fragrance enveloped her, a stark contrast to the group of sickening businessmen around them. He exuded a unique charm that defied the typical business industry. She was

Adam cast his striking gaze downward and inquired, “Was that intentional?”

Everyone burst into laughter again. “Today’s students are intelligent. They’re using different tactics to win over Mr. Alvarez.”

“It seems that this student really wants to marry Mr. Alvarez. She is quite ambitious.”

Celine’s cheeks burned with a mix of shame and fury. Deep down, he understood that she hadn’t done it on purpose.

Yet, he was seeking revenge against her for striking Carly. Perhaps it was simply hatred that fueled his relentless teasing.

She shot him a fierce glare, attempting to rise from his lap. However, Adam tightened his grip around her slender waist, trapping her between his arms. “Who are you?”

He asked her once more, “Who are you? Say it out loud.”

Celine’s heart raced as she pondered his intentions. Did he want her to reveal the truth about their marriage, or was he simply looking to mock her once more? She tried to break free and get up.

“You’ll have to beg me.”

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Adam whispered for Celine to beg him, making her heart race. He studied her intently. It had been a few days since they last met, and she seemed more distant.

When their gazes locked, her expression was stern, as if she was facing an unfamiliar person. In response, he chose to deliberately provoke her, and her fiery glare eventually reignited a flicker of vibrancy.

Adam said, “Beg me, and I’ll take you away.”

He understood her struggle but still wanted her to plead for help. Celine refused to do so. She didn’t need his help and didn’t want to be indebted to him.

“Mr. Alvarez, please let me go!” Celine exclaimed, pushing herself off his lap in a desperate attempt to break free. She immediately opened the door and left, not wanting to stay any longer.

Donald quickly stood up and asked, “Mr. Alvarez, shall we take our leave first?”

He hesitated to depart without Adam’s approval, but Adam remained silent. Interpreting the silence as consent, Donald made a swift exit.

Adam’s expression suddenly became cold and dark, catching everyone’s attention. They exchanged worried glances, curious about what was wrong with him.

Celine and Nikki were captured by bodyguards and shoved into Donald’s luxury car. Feeling terrified, Nikki huddled in the corner.

Donald turned to Celine. “What did Mr. Alvarez just say to you?”

However, Celine remained silent.

Donald pinched her cheek. “You’re quite a character, aren’t you? Sitting on Mr. Alvarez’s lap? It’s definitely something I’ve never witnessed before.”

Celine scowled, attempting to free herself from his grasp. “Keep your filthy hands off me!”

Yet, she failed. Her delicate skin reddened from the pinch, and Donald’s eyes glowed with a fierce intensity.

“I intended to enjoy our time together at the hotel, but now I find myself unable to contain my feelings. You even dared to sit on Mr. Alvarez’s lap, but now, I’m fortunate to have you all to myself. Haha.”

He rolled over and pushed Celine down into the seat. He showed no regard for their surroundings as he reached out to rip her clothes apart.

Nikki quickly intervened, rushing to Donald’s side. She pleaded desperately, “Please, Donald, let us go! We’re still students. We’re not...”

“Stay away from me!” Donald shouted, waving his hand.

Nikki stumbled back, hitting her head on the glass window and turning pale with pain.

“Nikki!” Celine called out, concerned about her injuries.

However, Donald restrained her and began to remove his pants. “Beauty, it’s time for some fun.”

Celine had planned to deal with Donald after arriving at the hotel, but now she felt it was necessary to act sooner. Thus, she reached for the silver needle at her waist.

At that moment, the driver ahead abruptly exclaimed, “Mr. Holt, there’s a car tailing us.”

Donald sat up and glanced through the rear window. He noticed a Rolls–Royce Phantom tailing them in the rearview mirror. His expression changed when he realized it was Adam’s car. He couldn’t believe that he was following them.

“Mr. Alvarez?” Donald was surprised.

In an instant, the Rolls–Royce Phantom barreled forward, slamming into him with a deafening crash. The impact was both ruthless and harsh.

The world–renowned Rolls–Royce, embodying sheer power, left its mark by crumpling the rear of Donald’s vehicle. The screech of tires echoed as Donald’s car was forced to stop.

Just then, the driver's door of the Rolls-Royce Phantom opened, and Adam stepped out, tall and handsome. He walked over to Donald's car and opened the back

door.

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Adam opened the back door and yanked Donald out by the collar of his shirt. Trembling with fear, Donald stammered, "Mr. Alvarez... what have I done to make you so furious? Please..."

Adam punched Donald before he could speak, and Donald's body slammed against the car.

His muscles bulged sharply in his suit as he punched Donald repeatedly, striking him hard in the face until blood spurted. Donald couldn't even cry out for mercy.

"Which hand did you use to touch her? Was it this one?" Adam broke his right hand directly.

Afterward, Donald collapsed to the ground, gravely injured.

At that moment, Leo and his subordinates arrived. "Mr. Alvarez."

Adam's striking and dignified features appeared strained. He commanded coldly, "Take charge of the situation here."

Leo nodded. "Yes, Mr. Alvarez."

Ignoring Donald, Adam approached the back door, glancing at Celine inside. "Come out. I'll drive you back to school."

After that, he returned to his Rolls-Royce.

Celine was startled when Adam unexpectedly confronted Donald and beat him brutally. It was frightening.

She couldn't comprehend why Adam, who had teased her just moments before, suddenly chose to come to save her.

Nikki's forehead was swollen, and Celine helped her out of the car. As she did, Celine noticed Donald, who moments ago had been so arrogant, now lying helplessly on the ground.

The area was cordoned off, with numerous people managing the chaotic scene. Without hesitation, she opened the back door of the Rolls-Royce Phantom and climbed in with Nikki.

Adam sat in the driver's seat, ensconced in the quiet luxury of the car, far removed from the chaos of the outside world. He appeared serene and striking as he wiped the blood from his fingers with a tissue.

Moments later, he started driving back to Yorhine University. He remained silent, and so did Celine. An unspoken tension hung in the air between them. Nikki gazed at Adam, her pale and innocent complexion gradually warming with a blush. She said, "Mr. Alvarez, thank you for today."

As Nikki pursued her studies in acting, she possessed a pleasant voice.

Adam rested his big hand with a valuable watch on the steering wheel. He remained silent and aloof. Celine glanced at him through the rearview mirror, and he caught her gaze as well. Their eyes met for a moment before Celine looked away.

Thirty minutes later, the Rolls-Royce Phantom pulled up at Yorhine University, and Celine and Nikki stepped out. Nikki stood poised, a striking red mark on her forehead enhancing her allure. She turned to Adam.

"Thank you once again, Mr. Alvarez."

Adam did not respond. Celine grabbed Nikki by the arm. "Let's go."

"Okay."

Celine and Nikki walked into the school while Adam sat in his luxury car, watching her with a smirk.

Celine and Nikki returned to the women's dormitory just as Hailey got back from class. She was shocked to learn about the incident.

She expressed her relief, saying, "Thank goodness Mr. Alvarez stepped in. If not, Mr. Holt would have taken you to a hotel, and that could have ended badly."

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Hailey flashed an ambiguous wink at Celine and remarked, "Celine, your husband is pretty amazing this time."

Nikki was shocked. "Celine, is Mr. Alvarez truly your husband? Are you married to him?"

Hailey nodded. "Celine is indeed married to him."

Nikki was astonished. She grabbed Celine's arm and exclaimed with a hint of jealousy, "Celine, you're so blessed."

Celine's smile reflected a whirlwind of emotions as she grappled with the true essence of happiness. Lying on her bed, she picked up her phone and navigated to "Honey" in her WhatsApp chat. After a moment of hesitation, she decided to send a short message.

"Thank you."

After a while, her phone buzzed with a message from "Honey". Adam's response was equally brief.

"How do you want to thank me?"

Celine curled her fingers and did not reply to his message. She placed the phone under the pillow and closed her eyes.

The following day, Nikki arrived at the Alvarez Group, situated in the heart of Mercy's most affluent district.

The company's towering building punctuated the skyline, serving as an emblem of wealth, prestige, and influence that took her breath away.

She entered and approached the receptionist. "Hi, I'd like to see Mr. Alvarez."

The receptionist inquired politely, "Do you have an appointment?"

"I didn't, but Mr. Alvarez knows me."

"I'm sorry. You need an appointment to see Mr. Alvarez."

Nikki's disappointment was palpable as she turned to leave. Just then, a group approached. Adam was walking alongside the company's senior executives, each sporting a blue badge. He was holding a document while speaking to them.

She rushed over excitedly. "Hi, Mr. Alvarez."

Adam paused to look at Nikki. He didn't recognize her. "Who are you?"

"Hello, Mr. Alvarez. I'm Celine's classmate. Thank you for helping us last night."

Adam looked at her and slowly started to remember who she was.

Nikki looked stunning today, adorned in a beautiful dress that elegantly showcased her graceful legs. “Mr. Alvarez, I can’t thank you enough for rescuing me and Celine. Please accept this **as** a token of my gratitude.”

Nikki joyfully presented the gift bag to Adam.

Adam stood tall with long legs. “Did Celine send you?”

“No, I came here alone. Celine went to the hospital early this morning to accompany Mr. Lynch,” Nikki replied innocently.

Adam was momentarily stunned.

“Mr. Alvarez, I handmade this...”

Adam’s expression turned cold as he commanded, “Don’t come again.”

After that, he left. Nikki froze in place.

The receptionist approached promptly. “Madam, we kindly ask that you leave the premises immediately.”

Nikki’s eyes were swollen with tears as she clutched her bag, which held the handmade knitted scarf. Yet, Adam didn’t **even** spare it a glance. After being pressed by the receptionist, she had no choice but to leave.

As Nikki stepped outside, she spotted an MPV pulling up. Emma Brown, a renowned celebrity in the entertainment industry, made a grand entrance into the Alvarez Group. She was surrounded by a group of assistants and bodyguards.

Two female employees inside were chatting when one exclaimed, “Is that Emma Brown? She’s the most recent celebrity to be promoted by Universal Entertainment, which is the subsidiary of Alvarez Group.”

“Once she joins Universal Entertainment, **it’s** nearly impossible for her not to be famous.”
“Why don’t you just say she can own everything if she marries Mr. Alvarez?”

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As Nikki listened to the two female employees engaged in conversation, her gaze shifted to the Alvarez Group.

With her background in acting, she recognized that Universal Entertainment was a subsidiary of this powerful group, which dominated a significant portion of the entertainment industry.

They had resources and connections that few could attain. All these were owned by Adam. Thinking of this, Nikki's eyes began to sparkle with excitement.

Adam stormed into the CEO's office, slamming the document onto the desk. He pulled out his phone and opened WhatsApp, only to find that Celine had yet to respond to his message.

At that moment, Leo entered and quietly reported, "Mr. Alvarez, Mrs. Alvarez is not at school right now. She has gone to the hospital to attend to Mr. Lynch."

Celine's whereabouts were updated over the past few days. This morning, she visited the hospital to take care of Nathan.

Just then, a melodious ringtone echoed through the air, signaling an incoming call. It was Lucy on the line.

"Hello, Mr. Alvarez. There's been an emergency. Please hurry to Tate Manor. Carly's heart is in pain."

Adam frowned. After the previous encounter in the hospital, he had chosen to ignore Carly, leading her to become noticeably more compliant. Hence, he replied, ' I'll come over right away.'

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In the hospital's VIP ward, Nathan sat on his bed wearing a hospital gown, savoring a bite of the apple that Celine had peeled for him.

Celine reviewed the hospital's examination report. "You've nearly recovered, Mr. Lynch. You can be discharged tomorrow."

Nathan smiled. "With you looking after me daily, it's no surprise I got better so quickly."

Celine turned to him. "You're hurt because of me, Mr. Lynch. I'm grateful."

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Nathan pulled her to sit on the edge of his bed. "Celine, we can talk about more than just gratitude, like how our fake relationship has turned into real love..."

She hesitated for a moment before replying, "Mr. Lynch, you got injured while trying to protect me. If you want to date me, then I-

"Stop!" Nathan shouted quickly. He added helplessly, "Just act as if I didn't say anything just now."

He was keen on dating her but didn't want to pressure her into it. His intention wasn't to make her feel indebted.

Celine smiled and placed the hospital report in the drawer.

Nathan suddenly asked, "Celine, do you still have feelings for Adam?"

She paused while closing the drawer. "What?"

Nathan found out what he needed to know from her response. "I know Adam well. He'll never break up with Carly."

She nodded. "I know."

Just then, a cheerful ringtone chimed, and it was Tracy calling. When Celine answered, she happily said, "Celine, come back to Tate Manor later. Everyone's here for dinner tonight."

Celine planned to decline, but Tracy continued, "I'm bringing Dr. C home for dinner tonight, and you simply have to join **us**."

She couldn't help but feel amused, so she changed her idea. "Alright. I'll be there on time."

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As evening fell, Celine returned to Tate Manor, where a festive atmosphere enveloped the residence. It was beautifully decorated, resembling a grand celebration of a significant event. The maids were busy preparing food and drinks for the event.

Celine entered and overheard two maids in conversation. "Ms. Tracy has brought her boyfriend home tonight. Do you know who he is? It's Dr. C!"

"Dr. C? Oh my gosh! I'm so excited. I can't wait to see what he looks like today."

"Ms. Tracy is amazing and can even win Dr. C's heart," the maids exclaimed, full of admiration.

At that moment, Sonia, Wayne, and Hazel came downstairs, looking formal and cheerful.

Sonia spotted Celine and coldly warned, "Celine, Tracy is bringing Dr. Chome for dinner tonight. Don't offend him, or I won't forgive you!"

Wayne and Hazel glanced at Celine indifferently. "Mom, Tracy, and Dr. C are arriving. Let's head out and welcome them."

Just then, a luxury car pulled up on the lawn of Tate Manor. Tracy arrived with Dr. C, wearing a stunning long dress and looking radiant.

She proudly introduced him to her family, saying, “Grandma, Mom, and Dad, this is Dr. C, my boyfriend.”

Sonia, Wayne, and Hazel gazed at Dr. C with smiles of satisfaction. “Dr. C, we’ve heard so much about you.”

Celine gazed at Dr. C, a strikingly tall and handsome gentleman dressed in an upscale shirt and trousers, adorned with an exquisite watch

He was a gentle and refined gentleman, easily deceiving ordinary people. Not surprisingly, Tracy became even more convinced of his reliability.

Dr. C smiled and said, “Hello, Mrs. Tate Senior, Mr. and Mrs. Tate. Here is the gift I brought.”

Then, the driver took out a bunch of valuable gifts.

Sonia grinned. “Thank you for the wonderful gifts, Dr. C. Please come in.”

Sonia invited them inside, but the crowd was so large that Celine got pushed into a corner and was ignored.

“Dr. C, Tracy, dinner is ready. We can dig in as soon as everyone gets here,” Sonia announced with a warm smile.

Tracy asked, “Grandma, who are we waiting for?”

“Carly and Mr. Alvarez are also joining us for dinner tonight. Let’s wait for them.”

Sonia turned to Dr. C. “You might not know that Mr. Alvarez, the wealthiest man in Mercity, is my grandson-in-law.”

Dr. C smiled. “I have heard of Mr. Alvarez for a long time.”

Celine stood quietly in the corner, absorbing the unfolding drama. She was aware that Tracy had invited Dr. Cover for dinner, but she was clueless about Carly’s decision to bring Adam home as well.

She understood that the two families had always engaged in a subtle rivalry. With Tracy bringing Dr. Chome, it was only natural that Carly would respond by flaunting Adam. Both families were determined to outshine one another in this unspoken competition.

At that moment, another luxury car stopped on the lawn at Tate Manor. Carly emerged with Adam's arm around her, followed by Hayden and Lucy.

Sonia quickly stood up. "Mr. Alvarez, Carly, it's wonderful to see you both."

Carly looked beautiful in a long dress and delicate makeup, looking charming.

Adam was wearing a black suit, looking handsome and noble. He entered the living room and asked Dr. C, "Are you Dr. C?"

Dr. C graciously extended his hand, saying, "Mr. Alvarez, I've missed you on two occasions. Allow me to handle Ms. Carly's illness. It shouldn't be a problem. It's a pleasure to meet you."

Adam glanced at Dr. C before extending his hand for a handshake.

Sonia radiated happiness as she held Adam with one hand and Dr. C with the other. "Carly and Tracy truly embody the pride of the Tate family. Now, I'm fortunate to have two remarkable grandsons-in-law, Mr. Alvarez and Dr. C. We're truly blessed."

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Sonia believed this was the pinnacle of her life, a moment made possible by her cherished granddaughters, Carly and Tracy.

Carly and Tracy exchanged warm smiles, their families radiating happiness together.

Celine quietly observed from the corner, knowing she'd never be part of the joyful Tate family. The only person she was connected to, Aaron, was dead and forgotten by them.

At that moment, she felt a pair of eyes watching her intently. She glanced up to find Adam, silhouetted under the bright lights, gazing in her direction. She couldn't help but wonder what had captured his attention.

He accompanied Carly back to Tate Manor this evening to support her. Yet, it seemed that everyone here had conveniently forgotten that she was, in fact, Adam's legal wife. Celine averted her gaze, overwhelmed by the absurdity of it all.

"Alright. Now that everyone has arrived. Mr. Alvarez, Dr. C, it's time to enjoy our meal," Sonia remarked with a bright smile.

The wine and food were ready, and everyone began to take their seats. With the seating carefully arranged, Sonia, being the eldest, graciously claimed the center position.

On the left, Adam, Carly, Hayden, and Lucy settled in, while Dr. C, Tracy, Wayne, and Hazel gathered on the right.

Laughter and joy filled the air as the entire family enjoyed the moment together. However, Celine soon realized she had no seat at the table.

Tracy invited her to dinner, but no one had set a place for her. Realizing the issue, Tracy asked with a smirk, "Celine, don't you have a seat?"

All eyes turned to Celine. The Tates had always looked down on her. No one had paid attention to her.

Sonia's impatience was palpable as she declared, "The seating arrangement is set. There are no additional seats available. Celine, go dine in the kitchen with the maids."

Lucy fixed her gaze on Celine, recalling vividly the last time Celine's actions had led Hayden to slap her. While her smile appeared friendly, a dangerous glint flashed in her eyes.

"How about that? I'll have the maid pull up a chair for you in the corner, where you can enjoy your meal."

Sonia and Lucy both teased Celine, resulting in laughter from everyone around her.

Dr. C turned to Celine and inquired, "Who is this?"

Tracy chuckled. "She's just a maid."

She claimed that Celine was merely a maid. In fact, Tracy had asked Celine to return home to seek revenge for her own past humiliation.

After all, Celine had witnessed Tracy's disgrace when her academic papers were removed from the Museum of Medical Sciences. Now, Tracy was flaunting her supposed superiority in front of Celine.

Carly cast a disdainful glance at Celine. To her, Celine appeared unpresentable, yet she was determined to match herself against her.

Celine stood alone, her clear gaze fixed on the Tates. She sneered. "It's not necessary. Since there's no seat for me, I'll skip it."

Afterward, she turned to Dr. C. "

I simply came back to see Dr. C."

Sonia scoffed. “You truly are lucky. Thanks to Tracy, you got to see Dr. C.”

Dr. Cheld Tracy’s hand as she flashed him a warm smile.

Celine calmly warned, “No one has ever seen Dr. C. Be careful. Stay alert of... scammer.”

Everyone was stunned, contemplating the implications of her accusation of **being a scammer**.

Dr. C’s eyes glimmered with guilt as he turned to Celine. Had she discovered something? **It** couldn’t be. He had **executed** everything **flawlessly**. With no further words, Celine simply turned and departed.

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After Celine left, Sonia exclaimed in frustration, “This is nonsense! Is she accusing Dr. C of being an imposter?”

It was impossible. Tracy was the first to reject the idea. Every piece of information pointed to Dr. C. Undoubtedly, he truly was Dr. C.

Wayne laughed. “Celine must be jealous of Tracy, so she said that on purpose. She wants to ruin the dinner.”

Hazel chimed in. “She’s just a country bumpkin, and she still dares to accuse Dr. C? It’s absurd.”

Tracy grasped Dr. C’s hand and apologized, saying, “I’m sorry, Dr. C. Please ignore her. She’s just too jealous of us and isn’t thinking straight.”

Dr. C glanced in the direction where Celine had left, exhaling a breath of relief. While he was uncertain about what she was aware of, her presence filled him with guilt and fear. Thankfully, the Tate family intervened and drove her away.

He gazed at the Tates with a knowing look, as if they had already walked into his carefully laid trap. With a warm smile, he reassured them. “Don’t worry. I won’t mind it.”

Sonia chuckled. “Don’t let Celine spoil our mood. Come on, let’s enjoy the dinner.”

“By the way, Grandma, I have some exciting news to share. I’ve joined Dr. C’s medical group and even own the shares,” Tracy announced proudly.

Sonia and the rest of the Tates were taken aback. “Tracy, you actually own shares of Dr. C’s medical group?”

Dr. C nodded. “Yes, Tracy has invested 1 billion dollars.”

Carly was surprised by the substantial amount. “Tracy, where did you get so much money?”

Wayne and Hazel chuckled. “We’ve put the company up as collateral.”

Dr. C beamed confidently and stated, “With my expertise on board, putting the company up as collateral is entirely risk-free. I assure you that if they invest 1 billion, they can expect a return of 2 billion to 3 billion this year. By then, Tracy’s net worth will have doubled.”

Dr. C was esteemed, possessing a reputation that few would question. Meanwhile, Carly, Hayden, and Lucy were restless. They were also eager to join Dr. C’s venture, seeking substantial returns on their investment.

Hence, Carly immediately said, “Dr. C, we’d like to invest 10 billion dollars as well.”

“We can put the company up as collateral too.” Hayden and Lucy agreed. They were also willing to put the whole company up as collateral for the investment.

Dr. C paused momentarily, showing a hint of uncertainty. “Well, this...”

Tracy took Dr. C’s hand and said, “We’re family now, so please let them invest.”

He eventually nodded and replied, “Alright. I’ll include everyone in this.”

Carly, Hayden, and Lucy were delighted. “That’s great. Thank you, Dr. C.”

“Hold on,” Sonia interrupted.

Everyone turned to Sonia and asked, “Grandma, what’s wrong?”

Sonia’s eyes sparkled with excitement. “Everyone wants to invest, and I’m eager to join in too.”

“Mom, you don’t have money.”

“I do. I can mortgage Tate Manor. The land holds significant value and can secure a substantial amount of money. Dr. C, I’m eager to invest in it as well.”

After contemplating for a moment, Dr. C agreed. “Alright. Let’s make money together. After all, Tracy and I are about to tie the knot, and we’re all part of the same family.”

Then, he kissed Tracy's hand, filling her with joy. The Tates were filled with joy, having invested their entire fortune in hopes of quickly achieving wealth.

Sonia lifted her glass. "Now that the jinx Celine is gone, it's our time to **rise**. Let's toast to our plan to make a fortune."

Carly raised her glass with Hayden and Lucy. "Cheers."

Tracy did the same with Wayne and Hazel.

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Following the toast, Carly glanced over to Adam, who was sitting beside her. Throughout the event, he remained silent, not engaging in any discussions with the Tates.

He maintained a remarkably low profile. After Celine departed, he gazed absently in the direction she had gone, lost in thought.

Carly asked, "Adam, what's wrong? Do you think it's inappropriate for us to invest in Dr. C's medical group?"

Adam looked up at Dr. C, who sat across from him. A twinge of guilt washed over Dr. C. Yet, Adam's eyes remained steady and incisive as if they could see right through him. The encounter with both Adam and Celine moments ago left him feeling unsettled.

Adam simply cast a calm glance in his direction before turning away. "It's nothing. Just make your own decisions."

He added, "I need to attend to something else, so I'll be leaving now."

After that, he stood up and prepared to depart.

"Mr. Alvarez, why are you leaving? We haven't had dinner." Sonia signaled Carly.

Carly knew that Adam was still upset about the photo. Yet, when he learned she was having heart problems, he still rushed over without hesitation.

As she placed her hand over her heart, she looked at him and said, "Adam, my heart is hurting."

Adam stopped as Carly fell into his arms. "Adam, can you please carry me up to rest?"

"That's right, Mr. Alvarez. Please take Carly to rest first."

Adam gazed at Carly's pale complexion and, after a moment's hesitation, finally relented. He lifted her into his arms, and together they ascended the stairs. Sonia gazed at Hayden and Lucy. "Since Tracy's dating Dr. C, and they'll be getting married soon, will Carly still not be marrying Mr. Alvarez by then?"

Hayden and Lucy were stunned. Adam and Carly's situation was not going as expected.

Sonia hinted, "I've always valued Carly. Carly needs to speed up the process. It's time for Mr. Alvarez and Celine to get a divorce."

It was indeed time for Adam and Celine to separate. Their marriage had lingered on far too long.

Lucy quickly grasped the clue and replied, "Mom, I get it. Carly will make sure Mr. Alvarez stays over tonight."

Sonia was pleased. "That's great. Tracy and Carly are the important members of our Tate family. It'd be best for your families to have a joint wedding. It'll surely create a buzz in Mercy and become a memorable story."

She found herself in a lovely fantasy. Despite the secret rivalry between the Hayden and Wayne families, they remained united after Aaron's death, especially when it came to bullying Celine.

If Adam and Dr. C could hold their wedding together, the Tate family would undoubtedly beam with pride.

Sonia lifted her glass once more. "Let's raise another toast to the incredible life that lies ahead of us."

"Cheers."

Celine didn't leave Tate Manor right away. Instead, she wandered into the backyard. It was there that a swing, constructed by Aaron just for her, once stood.

As a child, she would sit on that swing, soaring high into the air with Aaron giving her powerful pushes. "Celine is flying high."

The joyful moments she shared with Aaron lingered vividly in her thoughts. Yet, when she stepped into the backyard, her heart sank as she discovered the swing had vanished. Sonia had ordered its removal.

Gazing at the empty space, Celine felt an overwhelming tightness in her chest, as if a firm hand was squeezing her heart. The loss of that last cherished memory left her feeling profoundly unsettled.

After standing quietly for a while, Celine was ready to leave when two maids approached with a tray of scented candles. As they walked by, she overheard their conversation.

“Are these scented candles meant for Mr. Alvarez and Ms. Carly’s room?”