

Chapter 12

Scarlett was surprised to find out that it was Lance who had introduced James and Sebastian.

James's team not only seemed to be taking her to meet a few friends but also to take the project from Sebastian.

This was good too; it would take some time to discuss the project, giving her time to consider how to get out of it.

Scarlett's tense body relaxed slightly as she thought of this.

Just as she heaved a sigh of relief, James, who was beside her, suddenly raised her chin and said, "Finish the wine."

Scarlett could no longer pretend ignorance; thus, she had to lift the cup and gulp it down in one swallow.

She rarely drank, as Sebastian disliked the smell of alcohol, so she abstained from consuming any.

She abruptly gulped down a shot of potent liquor, causing her to choke back tears.

James, upon seeing this, embraced her swiftly and gently patted her back to soothe her.

Sebastian's cold gaze fell upon the hand that was clasping Scarlett.

Scarlett, amidst her tears, perceived the deadly intent in his gaze.

When her gaze refocused, all she saw was indifference and alienation in his eyes.

Scarlett laughed at herself for still having hope that Sebastian would take her seriously, despite the fact that he had only taken her as a substitute.

Seeing that Scarlett had calmed down, James hugged her and said to Lance, "She's never been an escort before, so she doesn't know how to drink. Please excuse her."

Lance smiled but said nothing. The woman beside him suddenly grew irate. "Mr. Forrest, what do you think you're implying?"

James raised his eyebrows and said calmly, "I didn't say anything about you. Why are you so excited?"

"You're suggesting," the woman instantly exploded, "that..."

"Come on. There's no need to argue about this. You know it, I know it, everybody knows it."

"What?"

The woman was speechless, so she stomped her foot and tugged on Lance's sleeve.

"Lance, did you hear what he said? It's too nasty to say that to me. Let's kick him out!"

Lance was good-natured and patted her hand. "Annie, you know Mr. Forrest likes to joke around. He didn't mean it."

But Annie wasn't willing to let go of the matter. Even though she was indeed an escort, now that she was with Lance, she didn't want people to describe her this way anymore.

Since she couldn't win against James, she turned her fire to Scarlett instead.

"Forget it, I'm not going to debate with you. We came out to have fun and find a joyful time."

"It's a bit dull just sitting here. Why don't we play a game?"

Upon hearing that a game was being played, everyone present became intrigued.

"What game?"

Annie took out a few cards and placed them on the table.

"Team up and play cards. Whoever loses will take off a piece of clothing."

"Interesting."

James naturally wouldn't refuse. He immediately agreed, and the other perverts were more than happy to join as well.

Lance was afraid that Sebastian wasn't accustomed to it, so he swiveled his head to look at him. "Sebastian, they've always been like that. If you don't want to..."

Before he finished speaking, Sebastian took the cards handed by Annie. "What are the rules?"

Lance was shocked; his brother had always despised this kind of place, yet today he came here and decided to join their games all for a woman who resembled Scarlee. This was too unusual.

Annie was surprised to find that the rumored Sebastian, who was not known for being close to women, was so easygoing, and she smiled immediately.

"It's very simple. I'll teach you."

After Annie explained the rules, she gathered everyone to draw lots and form a team.

Scarlett sat stiffly on the sofa, somewhat at a loss.

She was hesitating on how to refuse, but Annie seemed to have seen through her thoughts and spoke first.

"Everyone who comes will have to participate. Miss Sales won't ruin the fun, right?"

As soon as she spoke, all eyes were upon her.

Scarlett felt very uncomfortable being stared at. It was a lot of pressure.

She could not risk offending anyone, so she had no choice but to participate.

Only then did Annie leave her alone - for now.