

Spoiled 1121

Chapter 1121: Teach You a Good Lesson

After a while, Florienna Ellis's phone rang. It was indeed Teddy Carter calling.

"Hello? Florienna, what's happened to you? Why are you feeling down?"

"It's because of the design draft," Florienna answered evasively.

"Design draft? If I remember correctly, wasn't your team only responsible for the new products of the season? Besides, hasn't it already been completed?"

"It's precisely because of this season's new product launch that my design draft was deliberately suppressed by our team leader, Elijah Walker, and was not chosen for the design. So the new products launched this season don't have any of my work."

In fact, aside from latching onto George Robbins, Florienna originally stole the draft she used in her design work from Teddy Carter.

Florienna was afraid that Teddy would discover this, so she always kept her distance from him.

But now that her design draft wasn't chosen, Florienna wasn't worried anymore.

"What? Who gave Elijah Walker the guts to do such a thing?"

"Who else could it be but our Miss Thompson? See how much she values Elijah Walker now."

Florienna's tone was tinged with sarcasm, but Teddy on the other end of the call couldn't detect it.

"What's Elijah Walker anyway, getting all cocky like that?"

Teddy had always been a rival of Elijah Walker's, and even though Elijah had joined the company later than he did, Elijah had somehow managed to attain a status on par with him.

Teddy was, of course, full of disdain for Elijah, and the news from Florienna made him feel like he had something to hold over Elijah's head.

"Then..." Florienna's eyes darted around, but before she could say anything more, a noisy commotion came from Teddy's end of the call.

"I have a meeting to attend now. Let's not talk any further. Don't worry, I'll definitely give that Elijah Walker a good lesson for you."

After saying this, Teddy hung up the call.

They had a meeting scheduled that morning to welcome designers from XTZ, so all the team leaders of the various design departments and the company's independent designers gathered for it.

After hanging up, Teddy looked around and happened to spot Elijah Walker approaching.

He snickered to himself, then walked toward Elijah.

"I must congratulate you, Elijah, the great designer."

Teddy looked at Elijah Walker with a beaming smile, and without lowering his voice, as soon as his words ended, many eyes around them turned towards the pair.

Teddy had always been cold and distant to him, and now suddenly, he was greeting Elijah with a smile. Elijah felt there was something odd.

"Designer Teddy, what do you mean by that? There's nothing to congratulate me on," Elijah said indifferently, not really wanting to engage with Teddy.

"Don't be so modest, Designer Elijah. The new products launched this season have received so much praise, and now you're a highly sought-after figure in our design department, even Miss Thompson holds you in high regard."

Teddy said to Elijah, full of smiles, "You were always under the radar before, and to think that this time the new product design would fall into your hands, you're really lucky."

The task of launching the new products for the season was something many had fought over, and no one had imagined that it would end up with Elijah Walker.

Even though Elijah also served as the head of a design department, he had never competed for the limelight like the others and was always inconspicuous. So this sudden acquisition of the task by him had indeed taken many by surprise.

Chapter 1122: Too Arrogant!

"It's just good luck, and since I'm a designer, I need to do my job well."

Elijah Walker answered very blandly, then brushed past Teddy Carter.

But Elijah's attitude only infuriated Teddy Carter more, and he watched Elijah's retreating figure mutter ominously,

"Right, the great designer Elijah just does his own job, submitting the designs he likes and directly suppressing the ones he dislikes, without ever promoting them."

This caused Elijah to pause, and he turned to look at Teddy, furrowing his brows deeply.

"What do you mean by that?"

"What do I mean? You, the great designer, don't know?" Teddy looked back at Elijah innocently.

"You better explain yourself clearly."

Though Elijah was somewhat dull, he actually had a bad temper. He had initially noticed Teddy's sardonic tone but chose to ignore it out of patience; however, now his anger was stirred.

Teddy's smile remained unchanged, and this time, he didn't speak to Elijah alone but turned to the onlooking crowd, saying, "You all might not know, but this great designer Elijah did something quite impressive."

Seeing the curious expressions on the bystanders' faces, Teddy cleared his throat and continued,

"Our great designer suppresses the staff in his team. The designs they painstakingly create over a long time get suppressed by him and end up never being launched as new products. Isn't that something? I wouldn't dare do that."

At this, the bystanders erupted in surprise.

Moreover, since Elijah suddenly received the assignment for a new product design, there had already been some murmurs about him in the company; now Teddy was openly saying such things.

People began to gossip about Elijah:

"Is that true? He dared to do such a thing?"

"That's too arrogant."

"Could it be that his team members didn't please him, so he suppressed their designs?"

The chatter reached Elijah's ears and instantly ignited his anger.

He quickly stepped forward, reached out, and grabbed Teddy by the collar.

"What are you blabbering about?"

But Teddy acted very scared, hurriedly raising his hands to block the furious Elijah.

"Oh my gosh, Elijah Walker, what are you trying to do? You're not thinking of hitting me, are you?"

"Elijah, shut your mouth and stop spreading false rumors here," Elijah said through clenched teeth.

"What do you mean false rumors? I have evidence for what I'm saying. This time, out of twenty-one sets, twenty-one were launched based on the designs. But I remember you all submitted sixty-six designs in total, so logically, shouldn't there have been twenty-two sets launched? How come there's one missing?"

Teddy questioned, "Whose design is missing? Was it one of your team members? How pitiful."

Teddy's words made Elijah suddenly remember Florienna Ellis, who had been recommended to the company by Teddy.

"How did you know about this?"

"Elijah, the designer, so you're admitting it now? You really suppressed an employee's design?"

Teddy seized on the loophole in Elijah's words, and immediately began pressing further.

Chapter 1123: Just Kidding with You

Elijah Walker's chest heaved violently with anger, his face so red it seemed about to burst, and at last, it appeared he had no intention of explaining himself, only managing to force out through clenched teeth:

"Utter nonsense!"

Teddy Carter dropped his gaze, then lifted Elijah Walker's hand from his own.

He took a step back and smoothed out the wrinkles on his shirt that had been made by Elijah Walker, clicking his tongue twice. "It seems you're infuriated with embarrassment, Elijah Walker. I didn't expect your methods to be so forceful."

"You!" Elijah Walker was burning with rage, yet he clenched his teeth tightly.

But the very next second, Teddy Carter's expression completely changed.

"Oh my, my, Designer Elijah, you're not actually upset, are you? I was just joking around with you. Could it be you took it seriously? Or could it be that you actually did it?"

This caused Elijah Walker to glare fiercely at Teddy Carter.

Just then, the manager came over, puzzled as to why everyone was standing at the door of the meeting room instead of entering. "What's going on? Why are you all standing here and not going in?"

Elijah Walker was the first to stride into the meeting room.

Teddy Carter's eyes brimmed with amusement as he watched Elijah Walker's retreating figure and sent a message to Florienna Ellis on his phone.

"Go ahead and bring up Elijah Walker's issue first."

At this time, Charlotte Thompson was in her office organizing materials, making thorough preparations for the arrival of XTZ.

She let out a sigh as she looked at the thick stack of design drafts on her desk.

Although Charlotte had communicated with XTZ's people online before, this face-to-face conversation would be the first, which inevitably made her feel nervous.

Someone knocked on the office door, and in came Coco holding a folder: "Sister Charlotte, here's the information you wanted. I've gathered it all for you."

"Thank you for your hard work." Charlotte smiled, nodding her head in gratitude as she took the folder from Coco.

Coco immediately shook her head, somewhat embarrassed. "I didn't do anything difficult. After the collaboration with XTZ began, Sister Charlotte, you've been the one who's worked the hardest. I've only just assisted you with odds and ends."

"Not at all. Don't forget that it was your inspiration that sparked my design ideas."

Charlotte said with a smile as she stood up. The design inspiration she mentioned was none other than Zara Ward's Melissa Tanner Studio.

Initially, it was Coco's casual mention with the materials in hand that drew Charlotte's attention to Zara Ward's team, solving a particularly tricky problem for Charlotte at the time.

"Sister Charlotte, you flatter me too much, making me feel somewhat embarrassed," said Coco, scratching her head as she followed Charlotte out of the office.

"All of the company's designers should be in a meeting by now."

Charlotte, with the documents in hand, was getting ready to meet with Justin Battleson to discuss the specifics of their impending meeting.

Coco nodded in agreement beside Charlotte. "Everyone at our company is taking this collaboration very seriously; the design department's designers have already been in meetings for a long time."

Coco paused for a moment, looking curiously at Charlotte.

"But Sister Charlotte, who are you thinking of assigning this collaboration project to?"

Charlotte had full responsibility for the design work this time, but she couldn't possibly complete it on her own in a short time; naturally, she would have to select a supporting designer from within the company.

"I haven't decided on that yet. This afternoon, the heads of each design team will meet with XTZ's designers, and we can discuss it then."

Charlotte answered simply.

However, as she and Coco turned a corner, they overheard voices from the restroom behind them, discussing the matter.

Chapter 1124: Could It Be That You're Missing Me?

"Have you heard? That Elijah Walker from the design department, his character is really bad."

"He seems so dumb and dazed, who'd have thought he'd be so cunning?"

"Well, appearances can be deceiving. I'm not going to mess with him anymore. What if he starts making things difficult for me?"

Hearing these conversations, Charlotte Thompson's brow slightly creased.

The Elijah Walker they were talking about must be the same one she was thinking of, right?

"What happened to Elijah Walker, what happened?" Charlotte turned her head and asked Coco.

Hearing the name Elijah Walker, Coco first took a moment to react, and then she realized.

"Today at the office I heard some rumors, saying that Team Leader Walker deliberately suppressed a set of drafts from his team members and prevented it from becoming a new product release, claiming that the team member had offended him."

"So, that's what happened."

Charlotte couldn't help but snort coldly upon hearing this.

Of course, she knew all the ins and outs of the matter.

It was just that she didn't expect this news to be deliberately spread.

"Sister Charlotte, you know about this?" Coco saw the smile on Charlotte's face.

"Of course I do." Charlotte continued walking, "This time the design drafts were indeed tampered with, but not by Elijah Walker, but by me."

Charlotte said this with an easygoing tone that slightly shocked Coco.

"Ah? Sister Charlotte, did I hear you wrong? You're the one who suppressed the drafts?"

Charlotte tapped Coco's forehead lightly: "Have you forgotten about Florienna Ellis working under Elijah Walker?"

As soon as Coco heard the name Florienna Ellis, she had a moment of realization.

Charlotte glanced at the time on her watch: "Right, the designer's meeting should be ending soon. Go find Elijah Walker and tell him I will take care of Florienna's issue, so he doesn't need to worry about these idle rumors around the company."

"Okay, Sister Charlotte." Coco nodded, handed the documents she was carrying to Charlotte, and turned to walk towards the meeting room.

Charlotte headed straight to Justin Battleson's office.

Seeing Charlotte walk in, Justin Battleson, sitting at his desk, stopped what he was doing, pinched the bridge of his nose, and cast a gentle gaze towards Charlotte.

The office was filled with the rich aroma of coffee that was slightly tart as it hit her nose, a scent Charlotte was very fond of.

"Here are the documents related to today's collaboration with XTZ, I've brought them over for you."

Charlotte handed the documents over to Justin Battleson, but instead of taking the documents, he hooked his hand around Charlotte's waist, drawing her into his embrace.

Charlotte exclaimed in surprise at Justin's action.

"If it's just documents, the assistant could have gotten them. Why did you have to come here yourself?"

Justin leaned his chin on Charlotte's shoulder and lightly laughed,

"Could it be that you missed me?"

Ever since Charlotte agreed to remarry Justin yesterday, she had clearly felt that Justin had become more shameless.

"Who missed you."

Charlotte looked at Justin with feigned annoyance, trying to struggle out of his embrace, but Justin kept his grip tight around her waist.

"Stop messing around. I came here to discuss work with you, let me go."

"It won't interfere, you can talk now."

Charlotte listened and pinched Justin's waist lightly. However, such a gentle gesture only made Justin even more presumptuous...

Chapter 1125 My Sister-in-Law

Justin Battleson pressed both hands on Charlotte Thompson's waist and began to tickle her.

Charlotte's waist was always a sensitive spot, and one tease from Justin had her laughing uncontrollably.

She pushed against Justin trying to break free, but Justin pinned her down firmly, allowing Charlotte to flail about in his arms.

"Stop it, Justin..."

Charlotte laughed so hard she was gasping for air, her skin flushing a delicate pink, and her eyes misting over.

She pressed down on Justin's hands that were still on her waist and leaned softly into his embrace, breathing.

Justin's gaze was tender, as he bowed his head and kissed the top of Charlotte's hair.

After leaning in Justin's arms for a while, Charlotte regained her strength, then stood up from his lap, and this time, Justin did not stop her.

Once the playfulness had passed, they returned to their original discussion.

"I've communicated multiple times with XTZ, and the few design drafts I've sent over were well received; I think this collaboration should go smoothly."

If this collaboration succeeded, it could solidify Riley Group's standing in the fashion industry.

This clearly illustrated just how crucial this collaboration was for the Riley Group.

"You've worked hard, busy for so long." Justin nodded towards Charlotte.

"It's not hard; this is what I should be doing," Charlotte said with a smile to Justin.

At that moment, the voice of the assistant came from the doorway of the office.

"Come in."

Justin responded, and after the assistant entered, he spoke.

"Mr. Battleson, there is someone claiming to be Leon Battleson asking to see you."

Hearing the name Leon Battleson, Justin looked startled.

Charlotte was naturally familiar with that name too; wasn't that Justin's brother?

"Is he downstairs in the company now?" Justin stood up, his voice tinged with a hint of coldness.

The assistant nodded.

"Let him come up then."

Charlotte also turned her gaze towards Justin at this point.

"Didn't I tell you before that I wanted you to meet Leon one day? I didn't expect the opportunity would come so soon, but he's a bit odd, try not to mind him too much," Justin spoke coldly.

Charlotte composed her expression; she had always heard about Justin's brother Leon from him and didn't expect to meet him so soon.

Before long, the assistant led the person up.

"Brother, seeing you is really not easy."

A voice tinged with a smile came from the doorway, and naturally, Charlotte's gaze shifted immediately toward it.

She saw a young man in a red shirt enter, his hair somewhat long, contrasting with his pale, slightly brooding face.

From the contours of his brow and eyes, one could make out some resemblance to Justin, but his features were not as refined as Justin's, and even bore an aura that made him somewhat difficult to approach.

When Leon stepped into the office, his gaze was fixed on Justin, but unexpectedly, there was another person in the office.

His eyes flicked to the side, and seeing Charlotte standing not too far away, a spark flickered in his pupils, and his steps initially directed towards Justin abruptly shifted towards Charlotte.

"So you're Miss Charlotte Thompson, my sister-in-law?"

Leon directed a brilliant smile towards Charlotte, revealing a mouthful of bright white teeth.

Chapter 1126: Leon Battleson's Company

However, before Leon Battleson had a chance to approach Charlotte Thompson, Justin Battleson had already blocked his path.

"Why are you here?"

Justin Battleson had no gentle attitude to offer to Leon Battleson.

Whether it was his tone or his expression, the coldness Justin exhibited was very clear, yet Leon didn't care at all, his face still displaying a friendly smile.

"You're my brother, what's wrong with wanting to see you?"

Justin Battleson didn't answer; he certainly didn't believe that was the reason Leon had come to see him.

Seeing how Justin examined him with that scrutinizing gaze, Leon pursed his lips in a show of injustice.

"Hey, brother, don't always look at me like that, as if we have some deep, unresolved hatred..."

As he said this, Leon suddenly let out a snort of laughter, then waved his hand at Justin,

"Sorry, sorry, it seems we indeed have some deep-seated grudges between us."

Charlotte had been observing all of Leon's movements; looking at him, a somewhat irresponsible young man, she couldn't shake the feeling that something was amiss.

"If you want to talk nonsense, you should go find Oliver Battleson, not stand here wasting my time."

Justin Battleson spoke slowly, his eyes locked on Leon's face.

Sure enough, when his father's name was mentioned, Leon's eyes flickered.

However, his expression did not change, and he casually looked around.

"Mr. Battleson, is this how you treat a guest, not even offering a seat?"

"Then you'll have to first prove you're indeed a guest," Justin retorted directly.

Leon clicked his tongue lightly, then spread his hands: "Actually, I'm here to talk business, and I guarantee you'll be interested in this deal."

"Oh? You're that confident?" Justin Battleson walked over and sat down on the sofa.

"Of course, because this business..." Leon paused, then his gaze slowly shifted to Charlotte's face.

Feeling such attention on her, Charlotte experienced a surge of unease.

"This business happens to involve Miss Thompson,"

However, as soon as these words were spoken, the atmosphere in the entire office dropped to freezing point.

This time, Justin Battleson did not speak but lifted his gaze to look at Leon, his eyes expressing a very clear message.

"Brother, after so many years, your temper certainly hasn't changed a bit."

Leon then sat down quite casually opposite Justin, stretching his arms over the back of the sofa.

"It looks like you still want to kill me."

"I wonder what sort of cooperation Mr. Battleson is talking about? If it involves me, it might be the design industry," Charlotte interjected calmly and without ripple in her tone.

No sooner had Charlotte finished speaking than Leon snapped his fingers in her direction.

"Sister-in-law is truly clever, guessing the nature of our cooperation straight away. Correct, our company has a fashion brand, and we're hoping to collaborate with your company, especially wanting to work with Miss Joy," Leon said.

Then Leon raised his hand, and the assistant with him quickly pulled several documents from the briefcase and handed them over to Charlotte.

Charlotte took them, discovering they were indeed the general information about a fashion brand.

Moreover, she had heard of this brand; it had some reputation in Ashton.

Only, she hadn't expected that this brand was actually under Leon's company.

"Miss Thompson, are you interested in collaborating?"

Chapter 1127: Refusal

"How about we find a place to eat and talk?"

Before Charlotte could speak, Leon continued.

Charlotte glanced briefly at the materials in her hand, then without hesitation, rejected Leon's suggestion:

"Sorry, there's no need to have a meal with Mr. Battleson, and besides, the cooperation matters are handled by our president."

Charlotte looked towards Justin Battleson.

Although she had turned him down directly, Leon's smile didn't diminish in the slightest as he stood up and straightened out his clothes.

"How could Miss Thompson reject me so quickly? Won't you consider it at all?" he asked.

Charlotte smiled without a word.

But her facial expression already made clear her stance.

Seeing this, Leon sighed with a hint of regret and then turned to Justin, "As for the matter of cooperation, Mr. Battleson should still give it some thought. I won't distract you any further, it seems your company has a meeting soon with XTZ and the designers."

After finishing, Leon waved to Charlotte, then turned and left.

Once the office door closed again, Charlotte handed the documents she was holding to Justin.

"He just came to propose a brand collaboration?"

Charlotte was not familiar with Leon, so she couldn't guess his true intentions.

Justin took the documents, brows furrowing as he skimmed them; not a wrinkle eased.

"I'm also unclear about what exactly he wants to do, but he's not that simple. Just stay away from him and avoid any contact," he advised.

"I understand," Charlotte nodded.

Leon's visit was just a minor incident. Justin and Charlotte briefly discussed recent work within the company, and before long, someone came to announce the arrival of the XTZ designers.

Justin and Charlotte went to meet them together.

This time, the XTZ technical team that was sent comprised three people, including a fashion director from the XTZ Druarus branch who had been in communication with Charlotte.

She was a very mature and stable middle-aged woman who couldn't resist praising Charlotte when they met.

"Miss Joy, you are much more beautiful in person than you are in the news reports, and it's impressive that someone so young has achieved so much."

"Mr. Carter, you flatter me. In fact, I very much admire your designs, and even some of my previous works were inspired by your style. You could say you are my fashion mentor," Charlotte replied softly with a laugh, which indeed earned her a satisfied smile from Mr. Carter.

Since they had already talked online for quite a while, their meeting wasn't awkward.

The two chatted with each other all the way to the company's conference room.

At that moment, all of the important designers of Riley Group were gathered in the conference room, clearly indicating the significance of this collaboration to Riley Group.

After everyone was seated, Charlotte didn't hesitate to hand over the design drafts she had prepared in advance to Mr. Carter.

Mr. Carter had only glanced at the drafts before the designs fully captured his attention. He flipped through them one by one, his expression growing increasingly joyful.

"My goodness, this is fantastic."

Mr. Carter exclaimed genuinely, flipping through the few designs repeatedly. Looking up at Charlotte, he gave her a thumbs-up, his eyes brimming with admiration.

"I've never seen such wonderful design drafts. If these are actually produced, they will certainly have an exceptional effect."

Chapter 1128: Genius

"Miss Thompson, you truly are a genius. It's no wonder that people in the fashion industry hold you in such high regard."

Now, Mr. Carter's gaze toward Charlotte was brimming with irrepressible admiration.

From the beginning of their XTZ's collaboration with Riley Group, Mr. Carter was aware of Charlotte's presence in their company.

Charlotte had become an overnight sensation in the fashion world and had won numerous prestigious awards, earning the moniker of a genius by many in the media.

In reality, Mr. Carter's opinion of Charlotte wasn't that favorable.

After all, he felt that Charlotte was too young, lacking in experience.

However, as their collaboration progressed and through conversations with Charlotte, Mr. Carter increasingly desired to meet her in person.

But now, as he looked at Charlotte in front of him and at the design drafts she had passed over, he felt that she truly deserved the title of genius.

Whether it was her style or bold innovations, Mr. Carter could honestly say that he was no match for Charlotte in these two aspects.

Beside a bit more experience, he had no other advantages over her.

Mr. Carter was extremely grateful that it was he who had come to meet Charlotte today.

Charlotte felt somewhat embarrassed by such high praise from Mr. Carter and demurely lowered her head as she said,

"This isn't just my idea – the other designers in the company have also given me many suggestions."

In fact, everyone present knew that the designs submitted for the XTZ collaboration had been completed independently by Charlotte; by saying this, she was simply trying to give her colleagues a good impression in front of Mr. Carter.

Sure enough, upon hearing this, Mr. Carter's gaze immediately shifted to all the designers in the room.

Although they didn't show it on their faces, the designers previously in the spotlight felt a twinge of unease.

Finally, Mr. Carter's gaze settled on the man sitting furthest away.

"Miss Thompson, is this designer the lead responsible for your new product launch this time?"

Upon Mr. Carter's inquiry, everyone followed his gaze to the person he had singled out.

That person was Elijah Walker.

"Yes, Designer Walker is the head of the design team for this launch," Charlotte confirmed.

Mr. Carter nodded, "I've read his interview in a magazine and I really like the two outfits he designed. His style is quite impressive. I didn't expect Riley Group to have such talent hidden away."

This praise was a delightful surprise for Elijah; his facial expression froze slightly before he looked down awkwardly.

However, those remaining couldn't help but harbor different thoughts.

Directly praised by XTZ's Mr. Carter.

Could it be that this collaboration would fall into Elijah Walker's hands?

Thinking of Elijah's good fortune, several designers' eyes were filled with jealousy and dissatisfaction.

Meanwhile, Teddy Carter's hand clenched tightly under the table until it turned white.

He had managed so many seasonal clothing designs, so why hadn't he received such praise? How could Elijah just hit the jackpot this time, receiving compliments from everyone in the company? What was so special about him?

Charlotte, who had been discussing the collaboration with Mr. Carter, didn't notice the other designers' reactions.

After consulting with Charlotte, Mr. Carter selected the drafts he was satisfied with.

This time their XTZ was responsible for the basic patterns, while the final designs were once again entrusted to Riley Group.

Chapter 1129 Selection of People

Because Mr. Carter was extremely satisfied with the design draft submitted this time,

the cooperation between the two companies went incredibly smoothly.

There wasn't much negotiation before they shook hands, finalizing this round of collaboration.

Charlotte conversed with her fellow designers while Justin Battleson also signed a cooperation agreement with XTZ's chief officer.

As they saw off XTZ's design team and it was nearing the end of the workday, but usually the first to leave, the designers sat quietly at their desks this time, their glances at others laced with a competitive edge.

Clearly, everyone wanted to be in charge of the XTZ design project; they knew that once this project succeeded, the status of those involved within the company would soar.

However, the topic of discussion among everyone was mostly about Elijah Walker.

After all, XTZ's Mr. Carter had specifically mentioned him during the cooperation meeting, and Charlotte was also very satisfied with his work. There was a high probability that the collaboration would fall on his shoulders.

There were even people who couldn't contain themselves and sneakily tried to curry favor with Elijah Walker.

But Elijah Walker ignored all these people.

At that moment, Charlotte Thompson called another routine meeting, summoning all the designers. They rushed to the conference room, afraid that arriving even a moment late would mean missing out on something or having something snatched away by others.

It was the first time that Charlotte saw the designers being so eager to attend that she was taken aback.

But upon reflection, Charlotte understood what they were all here for.

"Now that the cooperation with XTZ has been finalized, our side will complete the final details. The initial drafts have already been done, and the additional, detailed work will be handled by our company's designers."

This time Charlotte was the lead designer, but due to the short production time, she only sketched out the basic patterns and some simple designs. The rest of the detail work would require the company's designers, with only three most important garments being under Charlotte's full control from start to finish.

"Regarding the selection for those involved in production..."

Charlotte's gaze swept across the faces of all present, deliberately creating suspense that made everyone tense and excited.

In the end, Charlotte's gaze settled on Elijah Walker's face.

Everyone looked at him warily, their envy clouded with even more jealousy and resentment.

Elijah Walker also sat up straight, tensely, under Charlotte's scrutiny.

But in the next second, Charlotte announced another name.

"Teddy Carter will be in charge, and as for the remaining designers, he will pick eight more. Just bring me the list when it's done."

Suddenly, Charlotte nodded, indicating the meeting could be adjourned, and without paying attention to what might happen next in the conference room, she turned and left.

The meeting room was left in a strangely charged atmosphere.

Teddy Carter was now so excited he was speechless; his palms resting on the table were covered in cold sweat.

He never expected this task would fall on him.

Teddy Carter took a deep breath, intending to maintain a facade of nonchalance, but just then, numerous designers crowded around him, offering congratulations and even flattering remarks, unleashing the joy he had suppressed in his heart.

"Congratulations, Designer Carter, it's unexpected that this matter fell on you."

"Old Carter, we have a good relationship, right? How about you pick me as well?"

"Brother Carter, don't forget what I mentioned to you before."

Chapter 1130: Slapping the Face

At that moment, the usually noteworthy Elijah Walker found his surroundings desolately quiet.

Seated and watching Teddy Carter being surrounded by people, Elijah Walker suddenly stood up and strode towards the exit.

He had just taken a step when Teddy Carter's voice came from behind him.

"Hey, big designer Elijah, where are you off to?"

Elijah initially didn't want to respond to Teddy Carter, but his way out was blocked by others.

Teddy Carter then positioned himself in front of Elijah, his face brimming with smugness.

"Just before, the XTZ Miss Thompson was praising you so much. Moreover, your new product was indeed well-made, and even caught Miss Thompson's eye. I thought this project would surely fall into your lap again."

He paused briefly, then a faint smile crossed his lips.

"Who could have imagined, the final person in charge turned out to be me, what a surprise."

"Is that so? Well, congratulations then," Elijah said, his face clouded.

The more Elijah displayed this demeanour, the more delighted Teddy became in his heart.

"Designer Elijah, why do I feel like your congratulations aren't heartfelt? Are you upset?"

Teddy Carter's taunting became even more excessive.

Seeing Elijah remain silent, those who followed Teddy Carter around also started to speak in a sarcastic tone.

"Is he upset? Initially, wasn't he dead set on this project, only to have his face slapped thoroughly in the end?"

"Yes, I had even seen people fawning over him before."

"And who would be so blind? With brother Carter around, to still seek such a person."

"Maybe it's the fear of workplace bullying. What if they became part of his team and couldn't deliver the designs? Spending long nights creating designs, only for all the credit to go to him—who would want that?"

The mocking voices caused Elijah's hands, hanging by his sides, to clench tight, his knuckles cracking.

Then, he suddenly lifted his head, glanced at Teddy Carter, and seeing him about to speak again, Elijah just pushed him away rudely.

"Move aside." His tone was extremely harsh.

Teddy Carter hadn't expected Elijah to suddenly get physical, and naturally, he stumbled back.

His gaze darkened as he watched Elijah's retreating figure, his expression turning very grim.

"He's strutting around for what? Now, he and brother Carter are worlds apart."

"Brother Carter, you shouldn't stoop to his level; he couldn't even compare to one of your fingers."

Fortunately, the flattering words from the crowd around him soothed Teddy's feelings.

He chuckled, adopting a deliberately humble demeanor.

"Let's not talk like that; everyone is over-praising me. I was just lucky to get this task, but now I'm also troubled, wondering who among the remaining eight to choose."

While the conference room was filled with cheerful conversations, Elijah Walker, who had left the room, felt like these voices were more of mockery, making him quicken his pace.

In his heart, he was filled with resentment.

He had genuinely thought he might secure this collaboration, especially since Charlotte had previously approached him for his opinions.

Yet, he had not anticipated the harsh slap of reality.

Recalling the people's mockery, Elijah clenched his teeth, unable to suppress the raging fury inside him.