

Adorable Twins: Daddy, Stay Away!

## Chapter 177 The Target Of Public Criticism

---

"Mr. Mayfield, are you single now? Or do you still plan to get married? Why is there still no news about the wedding?"

"The workers employed by Mayfield Group's construction company have recently held a protest march. What do you think about it?"

"Mr. Mayfield, we don't see a female companion with you tonight. Is there any other arrangement?"

Everett raised his eyes when he heard the words "female companion".

He arched his eyebrows and glanced at Melissa. His eyes gleamed.

"I invited a lady, but she refused." Everett, who had never answered any reporter's questions before, provided this unexpected and loaded reply.

Reporters were shrewd. They guessed what he meant and kept asking.

"Mr. Mayfield, who is the lady in question?"

"Does your reaction indicate that she is Mr. Brustin's companion? What is your relationship?"

Everett didn't answer any more questions. Instead, he turned around to leave.

The security guards surged forward to separate the reporters from Everett. The reporters did not give up easily. They kept asking and taking photos, hoping to get a response.

Even from afar, Melissa heard the reporters' questions.

She clenched her teeth, resisting the impulse to confront Everett.

## Chapter 177 The Target Of Public Criticism

He had never seemed this vindictive before. Was he retaliating in this way simply because she didn't accompany him to the banquet? She feared what the other women at the banquet would think of her.

Sure enough, when Melissa and Aloys entered the hall arm in arm, many women stared at her with a variety of emotions.

Some looked jealous and others hateful.

If their glares were knives, she would have been riddled with holes.

"Don't be afraid," Aloys leaned closer and said gently. "I'm by your side, and our priority is to feel out Ophelia."

"Okay," Melissa said, relieved.

From their table in the corner, two women watched this scene.

"What a seductress," Arielle said, stabbing a cake with her fork angrily. "If she hadn't reappeared, I'd be standing beside Everett as his wife today. Why didn't she die?"

All pretense of gentleness that she'd tried to maintain while in hospital was completely gone. She couldn't stand that Melissa was always in the limelight. She was eager to make a fool of Melissa in front of everyone.

"Arielle, calm down. I don't like her either." Ophelia was sitting next to Arielle and fiddling with her recent manicure. "She's a doctor. Why is she at a commercial banquet? It's obvious that she wants to marry a rich man, but she isn't playing things smart. By seducing two men at the same time, she could lose everything."

The words were mean-spirited, and Arielle was glad to hear them. The more people who hated Melissa, the happier she felt.

She would love it if someone taught Melissa a lesson.

Arielle glanced at the woman beside her and squeezed a tear from her eye.

"Ophelia, thank you for comforting me. Everett is my fiance, but he's been seduced by this woman, and my family won't help me.



Chapter 177 The Target Of Public Criticism

"You're the only one who's on my side. You were the only one who sought justice for me in the hospital the last time." She held Ophelia's arm as she spoke.

While Arielle couldn't personally teach Melissa a lesson, she could do it through the hands of another.

"Ophelia, I cherish our friendship. Only you are on my side."

## Chapter 178 Wanton

Ophelia felt sorry for her friend as she stared fiercely at the figure in the distance.

"Don't worry. We are best friends, and I won't let you suffer." She stood up abruptly. "Arielle, stay here. I'll arrange everything. If you wait, you'll see something interesting later."

"Wait, Ophelia..." Arielle pretended to stop Ophelia. When she was alone, her face lifted with a self-satisfied smile.

She would make Melissa suffer without lifting a finger.

Glass in hand, Arielle hunted for Everett.

There were a lot of women here tonight. She needed to keep them away from Everett.

A waiter had observed everything from his position in the corner. After Arielle left, he quickly approached Aloys.

Aloys realized the waiter he had arranged wanted to tell them something, so he took Melissa to the bar counter where only a few people lingered.

"Sir, here is your wine," the waiter said.

"Thank you." Aloys picked up the glass and took a sip. "What's happening?" he asked.

"Ophelia was talking to Arielle, and then Ophelia left, looking very angry."

Hearing that, Melissa frowned. Arielle? Her again?

Could it be a coincidence? Perhaps, but everything that had happened recently related back to her.

Melissa's eyes turned cold, and she clenched her fists. "If Merrick's food poisoning had something to do with Arielle, I will never forgive her."

Chapter 178 Wanton

"Let's wait and see." Aloys wanted to hold Melissa's hand and comfort her, but in the end, he patted her shoulder. He said to the waiter, "Keep an eye on Ophelia. If anything happens, come back and tell me."

"Yes, Mr. Brustin."

The waiter took the empty wine glasses and left as if nothing had happened.

"Is she the woman who refused Everett? She doesn't look good."

"I heard she's a doctor. There was a rumor that she dated two men at the same time. All the people in the hospital know about it: She's shameless."

Three women with heavy make-up stood nearby. Their words stung.

Melissa poured her wine, making it appear as though she had spilled it on the floor, but most of the wine splashed the gossiping women.

"You! You did that on purpose!"

Looking at their wet clothes, the three women looked ferocious.

"I'm sure I don't know what you are talking about." Melissa tucked a stray lock of hair behind her ear and smiled coldly. "I believe you are just dirty."

"What are you saying, you slut?"

"You call us dirty? You are just a wanton who enjoys seducing men!"

The three women cursed and were about to rush to Melissa when Aloys moved and stood in front of them.

He was usually gentle, but as he stared at the women, his words were slow and cold. "If you dare say anything more, just get out of here."

The three women kept silent and smiled.

"Eek!" Melissa exclaimed as an entire glass of wine was poured over her.



Chapter 178 Wanton

Her white dress was drenched. It looked awful.

"I'm sorry, madam. I stumbled and did it accidentally." The waiter who bumped into Melissa disappeared into the crowd.

Aloys frowned and said, "You can't walk around like this. I'll find you another dress."

"Okay, I'll go to the ladies' room," Melissa agreed, nodding. She turned around and headed toward the ladies' room.

Adorable Twins: Daddy, Stay Away!

## Chapter 179 Good At Seducing Men

---

After Melissa left, the three women exchanged a meaningful glance and followed after her.

On the other side of the hall, a man said to Everett, "Mr. Mayfield, please allow me to offer you a toast."

"Sure."

The man downed the contents of his wine glass in one go, while Everett simply nodded and refused to take a sip of his own drink.

Since his arrival, Everett had been swarmed by different people from various companies, all of them trying to curry favor with him.

He was not interested in whatever they had to offer, though. Instead, he kept glancing at Melissa across the hall, making sure that she was within his sight at all times. And so, when he saw her exit the hall with three other women tailing her, he immediately sprang into action.

"Excuse me."

Everett wound through the crowd to chase after Melissa.

He hadn't gotten very far when a sickly sweet voice called out to him from behind.

"Everett."

Everett frowned at the sound, but he didn't even pause his stride. To his annoyance, the woman trailed behind him until she finally overtook him and stood in his path.

"Don't you want to see me at all? Hmm, Everett?" Arielle put on a sad face as she continued, "I just wanted to spend more time with you. That's why I left the hospital. Don't be mad at me anymore, okay?"



## Chapter 179 Good At Seducing Men

"Fine, I'm not mad. You can do whatever you want to do. Just stay out of my way."

He couldn't care less about Arielle. His only concern was Melissa.

But Arielle had already surmised that her dear friend was the one behind the incident of Melissa's dress just now. She wasn't going to let Everett foil their scheme before it even came to fruition.

She pounced at Everett's arm and whined. "You made a promise, so you should stay here and keep me company. See, I came right over to you without even looking for my parents first."

In the ladies' room, the door slammed shut behind Melissa as she walked to the mirrors lining the wall. She couldn't help but frown at the sight of the stains on her previously pristine white dress.

If she wasn't mistaken, the dress was part of a limited edition series of a famous brand. It was easily worth hundreds of thousands of dollars.

It cost a fortune!

She groaned to herself before pulling out a packet of tissues from her purse. She tried to dab at the stains, hoping the dress was still salvageable. A sudden noise broke through her thoughts.

Melissa looked up to find six figures standing behind her in the mirror.

She whirled around to face them, her senses instantly on high alert. "What do you want?"

"Long time no see, Dr. Sherman." Ophelia was in the center of the group, her arms crossed over her chest. "I never expected you to mingle with the business circle. You are a medical professional, after all. Or what? Were you planning to quit being a doctor and snag a rich husband instead?"

"You're Arielle's friend, aren't you?"



Chapter 179 Good At Seducing Men

Melissa's eyes narrowed as she recognized the woman's face.

This was the woman who had come to her office to stir up some trouble. It looked like she was about to do it again.

"That's right," Ophelia confirmed, her expression turning vicious. "Arielle and I are very close indeed. And since you dared to steal her man, I'll be sure to teach you a lesson!"

She pointed a finger at Melissa and turned to her cohorts. "Tear this bitch's dress."

Melissa leaned against the sink and tried to think of a way out of the situation.

But she was surrounded, the women approaching her from different directions with sinister smiles on their horrid faces.

"Don't come any closer. Try to hurt me, and you'll end up in the police station!"

"Ignore her," Ophelia interjected without missing a beat. "I'll take responsibility for this. My family has enough power and influence to cover your asses."

She smirked at Melissa and added, "You may not know this, but I come from a very influential family. You can ask around Andeport if you want. The name is Ophelia Swain."

Ophelia Swain! Melissa's eyes twitched. So this was Ophelia, Arielle's best friend!

She might have had something to do with the food poisoning at the kindergarten!

Melissa's thoughts were still racing when the women started pulling at her dress.

"Aren't you good at seducing men? Let us help you take your clothes off, so you can flaunt your body to all the men outside."

## Chapter 180 She Was His Wife

Bang!

The door to the ladies' room slammed against the wall, and a tall figure loomed in the doorway.

"Let her go," Everett growled as he pushed past the women and stood in front of Melissa.

He took off his suit jacket and draped it over her shoulders. "Are you hurt?" he asked gently.

Melissa bit her lower lip and shook her head.

She didn't expect someone to storm into the ladies' room to rescue her at the last minute.

And for it to be Everett, of all people!

Ophelia recognized him at first glance. Her arrogance immediately vanished into thin air, and she ducked her head for fear of meeting his eyes.

She wasn't lying when she said that her family was powerful, but they were nothing compared to the Mayfields.

The other women paled as well, and they fell back from Everett and Melissa in fright.

A pregnant silence filled the room. No one was willing to step forward and take responsibility for the incident.

Everett turned away from Melissa to sweep a cold glance over the other women.

"Who's behind this?" he demanded.

The five women fidgeted and looked at each other nervously.

They were well aware that they couldn't afford to offend Everett, but that also applied to Ophelia.



## Chapter 180 She Was His Wife

"You don't want to tell me?" Everett said in a menacing tone. "I'm sure you know who I am, and the weight that my name carries. Since you dared to lay a hand on my woman, it's only natural that I repay the favor in kind."

As if on cue, a group of bodyguards suddenly appeared, blocking the door.

They were trapped in the ladies' room. Nobody could get in or out while Everett's men stood guard.

Seeing this, the five women promptly chickened out.

Their faces all drained of color, and a couple of them slumped to the floor in defeat. Finally, one of them raised a trembling hand and pointed at the woman who stood quietly in the corner.

"It's her. It's Ophelia who put us up to it."

As soon as someone caved, the others were quick to follow suit.

They stepped away from Ophelia as they exposed her to be the mastermind.

"You!"

Ophelia was shaking in a mix of fury and fear. She wanted to beat up these shameless traitors, but at the same time, she was afraid of incurring more of Everett's wrath.

In the end, she haughtily raised her chin and said, "Yes, that's right. I made them do it. Don't think that I'm afraid of you just because you're the CEO of the Mayfield Group!"

"Well, you certainly have some guts," Everett remarked, his lips curling into a mocking smirk.

He gestured to one of the bodyguards, his tone light as he ordered, "Strip her naked and drag her out into the banquet hall."

The women froze in shock.

Sure enough, Everett was indeed a ruthless man who never showed mercy to his enemies, not even to women.

## Chapter 180 She Was His Wife

The bodyguard wasted no time and instantly yanked Ophelia by the arm.

She struggled desperately against his hold, flailing and screaming to be let go.

"Everett! Arielle has stayed by your side all these years, yet you abandoned her the moment this bitch appeared! She is the third party here! She's the one who ruined your relationship! She is nothing more than a whore who seduced another woman's fiance!"

Everett paused and slowly looked at Ophelia. The air around him thrummed with a dangerous energy so palpable, it was almost suffocating. He bit out the words one by one. "She is not a mistress."

Melissa was his wife.

He didn't say that last sentence out loud, but the words resounded in the chambers of his heart.

He nodded at his men, and they quickly wrapped up the whole fiasco and took the other women away.

Once they were left alone, Melissa looked up to find Everett staring at her with a faint smile on his lips.

"Well? I saved you, but you won't say anything to me?"

"Thank—" Melissa began when something else occurred to her. Her eyes narrowed in irritation. "Wait, why did you say those words in front of the reporters earlier? Do you realize that all the women hate me now because you spouted that nonsense?"

Everett spread his arms and shrugged innocently. "I only told the truth."