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In any case, Carly's grandmother kept frowning on Mandy's designs. Mandy genuinely didn't know what kind of style the old lady desired, so she felt compelled to propose making a luxurious

dress using the finest materials. However, Carly's grandmother was even more opposed to that idea.

Just when Mandy was at a loss, Carly's grandmother suggested she wanted a design similar to the one Janet created for Hannah and asked Mandy to make the dress according to Janet's design.

Naturally, Mandy couldn't agree. Plagiarism was a taboo in the fashion industry.

As a renowned designer, she couldn't plagiarize, regardless of how impressive someone else's design might be.

Their discussion went on for some time without resolution. Eventually, Carly asked Mandy to leave and said they would discuss it another day.

Not long after Mandy returned, Carly informed her that she had changed her mind and decided to hire Janet.

When Janet learned the whole story, she sighed and shook her head. "Miss Hamilton, Carly's grandmother didn't mean that you should plagiarize." Mandy frowned and asked in confusion, "Then why did she want me to create a design like yours?"

Janet explained patiently, "She desires a natural and comfortable design, and your designs are all extravagant and intricate. It's normal to have this outcome since you didn't take the client's needs into account." Mandy's furrowed brow slightly relaxed. She pondered, "She wants a natural and comfortable design?"

Noticing Mandy deep in thought, Janet knew Mandy had grasped the concept. She continued to explain, "You took this order just to humiliate me, didn't you? You didn't consider whether your style was suitable for this order at all. During the discussion, you didn't listen to the client's needs carefully and kept pursuing a luxurious and extravagant style. That's why Carly stopped cooperating with you." After listening to Janet, Mandy had a moment of clarity. It wasn't until then that she remembered how every time she mentioned expensive fabrics and extravagant styles, Carly's Grandmother immediately frowned and hesitated, appearing quite uncomfortable.

At the time, she assumed Carly's grandmother wasn't satisfied with the designs. But now, Mandy realized she didn't like that style at all. Mandy had to admit that she was reluctant to accept this order initially.

Her style was always opulent, and her clientele comprised wealthy ladies. She had never made clothes for an elderly woman from the countryside. So when she found out Carly planned to cancel the order, she was secretly relieved. Only when she learned Carly had chosen her rival, Janet, did Mandy become so furious that she confronted Janet.

Seeing Mandy finally understood the situation, Janet breathed a sigh of relief.

She knew Mandy wasn't a bad person. Mandy was merely a pampered lady from a wealthy family. If possible, Janet didn't want to have a conflict with her.

Just when Janet thought the matter was resolved, Mandy suddenly stood up and stared at her. Alarmed, Janet exclaimed, "What are you going to do?"

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Upon hearing Janet's scream, Brandon, who had been focused on eavesdropping at the door, grew nervous and burst in without thinking.

"What happened?"

Seeing Brandon enter aggressively, Mandy trembled with fear. Frowning, Janet glanced at Brandon, who had suddenly rushed in, and then at Mandy, who was frightened by him. She discreetly winked at him, inquiring if he had something to say.

Brandon sat down beside Janet, still on guard, and shook his head, indicating he had nothing to say.

Janet motioned for Brandon to remain silent with her eyes. ninjanovel.com content Then she turned to

Mandy and asked patiently, "What do you want?" Mandy did her best to suppress her fear and said, "I just wanted to tell you that even though I lost this time, I will definitely defeat you next time with my own abilities!"

Hearing Mandy's words, Bra. was puzzled. ninjanovel.com content "What do you mean?" Mandy glanced timidly at Brandon, and remained silent. However, Janet understood Mandy's intentions. She extended her hand to Mandy and smiled. "Alright, I'll be waiting for your next challenge." Was Janet trying to reconcile with her?

Mandy was taken aback when she saw Janet's hand. Her prejudice against Janet had shifted. Brenna often took Mandy to social events, where she met proud socialite ladies who would cut ties over the smallest things. Yet, as the lady of the White family, Janet was nothing like that.

She was gentle and generous, appearing unfazed by her arrogance. Although

Mandy had changed her opinion of Janet, she didn't acknowledge it due to her haughty nature.

Pursing her lips, she snorted, deliberately not shaking hands with Janet, and turned to leave.

What you are reading is missing, visit ninjanovelnovel.com to read the full chapter. Seeing Mandy's refusal to acknowledge Janet, Brandon's expression darkened.

He wanted to stop her, but Janet shook her head at him, signaling him to let

Mandy go. Reluctantly, Brandon stepped aside but continued to glare at Mandy with blazing eyes.

His menacing gaze was intimidating. Frightened, Mandy covered her chest and quickened her pace, fearing Brandon would drag her out if she moved too slowly. No matter how handsome Brandon was, his demeanor was terrifying. It was a mystery how Janet managed to handle him. It wasn't until Mandy left that

Janet breathed a sigh of relief. Mandy's departure was a relief, as dealing with her had been challenging.

Brandon hurried to Janet, looked her over, and asked with concern, ninjanovel.com content "Did she bully you? Are you hurt?"

Amused, Janet shook her head and said, "Don't worry. I'm fine." Once assured that Janet was unharmed, a faint smile appeared on Brandon's face. He teased,

"I'm your assistant now. | have to keep you safe all the time."

Janet smiled. "It seems you're already a competent assistant." Brandon straightened his back and nodded approvingly. "Of course, being an assistant is a piece of cake. Is there anything in the world I can't do well?"

Glancing toward the door, Janet joked, "You're indeed a professional assistant. You have sharp ears. As soon as you heard your boss's scream, you came rushing in."

For the first time, a hint of embarrassment appeared on Brandon's handsome face. "I just happened to pass by and heard it.

Raising her eyebrows, Janet said, "Are you sure you weren't eavesdropping at the door the whole time so you could break in and interrupt Mandy just in time?"

Brandon replied seriously, "It's my duty to protect you, boss." With her head tilted to one side, Janet spoke in a serious tone. "A qualified assistant shouldn't eavesdrop on their boss."

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Without hesitation, Brandon placed the blame on Sean, confidently stating,

"Sean told me that when the boss is likely to be hurt, an assistant can take unusual actions, like eavesdropping."

Janet smiled gently, not pressing the issue further. She opened her arms and said, "I'm tired. I want to lean against your shoulder."

Brandon returned the smile, walking over to embrace her obediently.

Resting his chin on top of Janet's head, he asked softly, "Boss, what do you think? Are you satisfied with my performance today?" Pretending to ponder in order to tease him, Janet eventually replied, "Despite the eavesdropping, your overall performance isn't bad, Mr. Larson."

The scent of Janet's body making. Brandon feel content. "It's a good thing I found you a female assistant. If I hired a male assistant to be with you day and night, (ninjanovel.com) wouldn't I have found myself a love naval?" Janet playfully raised her head and asked, "How did you know I was going to hire a male assistant at a high price? I could've hired someone more handsome and taller than you... Ah! What are you doing?" Before she could finish, Brandon lifted her up and pressed her against the sofa.

The room's atmosphere became instantly romantic. As Brandon's warm breath grazed her ear, his low, jealous voice inquired,

"You want to find a male assistant? More handsome and taller than me? Huhe" Janet kissed his lips and said innocently, "I just need an assistant to help with my work. You won't mind, will you?"

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Brandon lifted her chin, gazing at her lovingly and earnestly. "I do mind! Just hearing that makes me jealous. I'm the only man The room's atmosphere became instantly romantic. As Brandon's warm breath grazed her ear, his low, jealous voice inquired, "You want to find a male assistant? More handsome and taller than me? Huhe"

Janet kissed his lips and said innocently, "I just need an assistant to help with my work. You won't mind, will you?"

Brandon lifted her chin, gazing at her lovingly and earnestly. "I do mind! Just hearing that makes me jealous. I'm the only man you can have in your life."

With that, he tenderly kissed Janet's lips, (ninjanovel.com content) a moment full of love and affection.

Everything around them seemed to fade away, as if time stood still and only his embrace and breath existed.

After the kiss, Janet pushed against Brandon's chest, shyly protesting, "Don't do that. Your bodyguards are still outside the door."

Brandon brushed against her body and said, "They can't hear us." Janet held his wandering hand, weakly resisting. "No, you can't. We're in the office. Don't do that."

With a mischievous smile, Brandon raised his eyebrows. "Do you remember our bet? If I lost, I'd work as your assistant, and if you lost..."

"Don't say it!" Blushing, Janet glared at him and covered his mouth. "You've lost. Don't mention it anymore."

Brandon removed Janet's hand and grinned, (ninjanovel.com content) "If you lose, you'll have to design some sexy lingerie for yourself and wait for me in it on the bed. If you don't want me to do anything now, design that lingerie. What do you think?"

Janet glared at him and huffed, "You're a scoundrel!"

Seeing her shy and irritated expression, Brandon's desire grew. He couldn't help but pinch her waist and shower her with kisses, whispering, "I'm a scoundrel. So what? You can't escape." Brandon deliberately spoke with a tempting, hoarse voice, causing Janet to feel weak. Her hands, which had been pushing against his chest, gradually stopped.

"Brandon..." Janet murmured, clutching his collar.

Just as the atmosphere intensified, the reception room door burst open. Breathless, Lexi exclaimed, "Boss! Are you okay?"

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For a moment, the whole world seemed to come to a standstill. The large reception room was so silent that only the breathing of its three occupants could be heard. The air was taut with embarrassment.

Lexi stopped midway through pushing the door open and froze. She didn't expect to stumble upon such a scene behind the door. "Ah!" Janet screamed as she came back to her senses.

She immediately pushed Brandon away, spun around and ducked behind the sofa, hiding her face. She felt so embarrassed! She desperately wished that she could disappear right then and there!

She had never felt that much embarrassment in her entire life!

Brandon, too, was jolted back to his senses.ninjanovel.com He coughed awkwardly and asked, "What're you doing here, Lexi? I thought I told you that I'd be the assistant today and that you could have the day off?" Lexi gulped and replied in a trembling voice, "You did, but Sean. asked me to come here. He... When he got your call, he thought there was an emergency, so he asked me to come and have a look... I didn't expect..."

She didn't expect that not only would there be no emergency, but also, that she'd interrupt Brandon and Janet.

Lexi felt helpless. She cursed Sean bitterly in her heart.

Upon hearing her reason for being there, both Brandon and Janet rebuked

Sean in their hearts as well.

At that same moment, Sean, who was out on a date with Estella at the

amusement park, sneezed three times in a row.

As he gazed up at the sky, he couldn't help but think about his boss, who had just called him. He thought of himself as an outstanding assistant who hadn't forgotten to get someone to attend to his boss' issue whilst he was out on a date. He was quite certain that he'd get a promotion and a raise.

After explaining herself, Lexi left as quickly as she could, scared that she'd be fired if she spent another second there.

Noticing that Janet was still hiding behind the sofa, Brandon couldn't help but feel helpless. "You can come out now. Lexi's gone."

With her face still buried in her palms, Janet remained crouched down behind the sofa, refusing to budge.

Brandon was amused, and chuckled, "How long do you plan on staying down there?"

Janet responded in a muffled voice, "Leave me alone. I'm too embarrassed to come out."

"Come on, don't be like that." Brandon walked over and lifted her up. "She's gone. Everything's alright."

Janet flung herself into his arms and buried her head in his chest. "I feel so humiliated! How do I even face Lexi tomorrow?" Brandon wasn't too thrilled to have been interrupted by Lexi. Upon hearing Janet's worries, he said to her bluntly, "Don't worry about it. If you think it'll be too hard to work with her, you can fire her. I'll get you a new assistant."

Janet quickly took a step back, out of his embrace, and said, "No way! Lexi only came here because she was worried about us. She did nothing wrong."

Brandon pinched her nose playfully and said, "Then don't fire her. It's your decision. All I want is for you to be happy." Thinking about what had happened today, Janet sighed dejectedly. "Today's been quite the day."

Brandon couldn't help but laugh. "Would you still like me to be your assistant next time?"

With a weak wave of her hand, Janet said, "No, Mr. Larson. You're fired."

If she allowed Brandon to act as her assistant for a few more days, she was only going to run into more trouble.

It was right about sunset at this time. Brandon glanced at the clock on the wall, and smiled. "Well, it's time to get off work. My task is done. Let's go home."

As soon as Janet heard the words "get off work", she felt an immediate surge of energy. After tidying up, she took Brandon's hand, and the couple made preparations to head home.

As they were deciding what to eat for dinner, a mysterious figure suddenly appeared in front of them.

This took Janet by surprise. After taking a closer look, she realized that it was Garrett, who she hadn't seen for a long time.

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Garrett's visage bore the weight of exhaustion, his desolate expression a far cry from the suave and debonair nobleman he once was.

For the first time, Janet saw him in such a state, gasping in astonishment,

"What's wrong with you?"

With a feeble attempt at a smile, Garrett replied, "I'm fine." Brandon crossed his arms and regarded him with indifference. "You can't torment yourself like this just because your wife and child left you. Who are you trying to impress with this misery?" His eyes shimmering with pain, Garrett murmured, "Yes, they're not with me, and no one will care about what I look like."

The memory of the last time ninjanovel.com he saw Laney and their baby had grown hazy. To alleviate his pain, Janet quickly changed the subject. "What brings. you to us today?" Snapping out of his thoughts, he managed a bitter smile. "I wanted to share a meal with you. Do you have time?" Exchanging glances, Janet and Brandon sighed.

They retreated to an elegant restaurant, reserving the most secluded private room.

As the food arrived, Garrett filled his glass with wine and downed it in one swift motion.

"Laney..." Garrett paused, his voice muffled. "Is she doing well? Are she and our baby happy over there?"

Janet chose her words carefully before responding, "They're doing fine. I spoke with her a few days ago, and she said they're happy there, and your baby is thriving."

She assumed Garrett would find solace in her words, but, to her surprise, he merely shook his head and released a wry chuckle. Undeterred, he continued to drown his sorrows in several more glasses of wine.

"Garrett, you..." Janet glanced at Brandon, hoping that as his close friend, he would advise moderation.

But Brandon shook his head, whispering, "Let him release his emotions. He's been holding them in for too long."

As a close friend of Garrett's, Brandon maintained contact with him, staying informed about his situation to some degree.

Ever since Laney had taken their child and left, Garrett had buried his pain beneath an avalanche of work, fearing he might lose control and hurt them if he sought them out.

He never returned to his family home, either.

Ever since Laney's departure, Garrett found refuge either in his office or the once-promising abode he and Laney had acquired. Despite his parents' persistent pleas for his return, he stood his ground, unwavering in his refusal.

Their relationship strained, Leo and Vera found themselves in a quandary. They didn't dare to trouble Laney again, nor did they insist on seeing their granddaughter.

Garrett didn't cease until the last drop of wine on the table had vanished.

Inebriated, Garrett slumped against the table, eyeing the two friends. "Why are you still so close?"

He laughed bitterly, his sorrow palpable. "If you ever have children, you'll make wonderful parents. Unlike me—I'm useless, unable to see my wife and daughter."

Brandon, typically composed, furrowed his brow at Garrett's anguish. "When do you plan to bring Laney and your baby back?" he inquired.

"Bring them back? Do I even deserve that?" Garrett's voice cracked, clutching his hair. "Laney wants to divorce me! She asked for a divorce! She doesn't want me anymore!"

"What?" Both Brandon and Janet reeled in shock.

"What happened? Did Laney tell you she wants a divorce? Could there be a misunderstanding?" Janet, perplexed, asked.

She had never heard Laney mention divorce, and her conversations with her suggested she still loved Garrett.

Despair etched on his face, Garrett choked out, "Yesterday, I received a divorce agreement from Laney, along with the wedding ring she returned to me..."