

## The Ashes 281

Chapter 281 In the West End district, Andrew and Dylan received a grand welcome from Natasha. Mr.

Lloyd, I never expected you to make such bold moves.

You even managed to shock someone like me, Dylan admitted, still in awe of Andrews earlier actions and words

Dylan could not shake off the memory of how Andrew had brazenly called Natasha an airhead and lectured her to read more books as if she were just one of his men.

He found it incredible that Andrew dared to act this way on someone elses turf, surrounded by their elite fighters.

What bewildered Dylan even more was that Natasha did not get angry after being scolded.

Instead, she switched sides, driving Atlas and Finley away while graciously hosting him and Andrew.

As one of Jayrodales crime lords, Dylan had never felt this triumphant.

Im not as remarkable as you suggest, Andrew said calmly.

She simply came to her senses and realized she couldnt let Northern District become too powerful, and once I pointed that out, Atlas and Finleys scheme fell apart on its own.

Dylans mouth twitched before he could not help but say, Even so, Mr.

Lloyd, you didnt have to insult her in front of all West Ends top fighters.

Though shes West Ends leader, shes still a woman at heart, and women tend to hold grudges Im

worried she might ... You're afraid she'll come after me later? Andrew asked with a smile.

Dylan gave a bitter laugh and stayed silent, which was answer enough.

You're only half right, Andrew said dismissively

Yes, women hold grudges, but they also love getting results.

Once Northern District falls and Natasha tastes success, do you want to bet she won't just forgive me but will come thanking me with joy? Mr.

Lloyd, you're absolutely brilliant! Dylan gave him a thumbs up, thoroughly convinced.

A flirtatious laugh interrupted them as Natasha walked in, wearing a sexy dress with a high slit, her steps graceful and alluring.

Mr.

Lloyd, Mr.

Garner, let's drink to our hearts' content tonight! Natasha's radiant smile made her look completely

different from her earlier fierce demeanor

Madam Vostokoff, you're not mad at our Mr.

Lloyd anymore? Dylan teased

Natasha rolled her eyes playfully.

Mr.

Lloyds abilities are extraordinary I was blind not to see it before.

Now that I understand, how could I be mad ? Im eager to follow his lead

Natasha did not hesitate to sit right next to Andrew, her intoxicating perfume filling the air

Dylan smiled knowingly, easily spotting that this widow had likely set her sights on Andrew.noveldrama

Nonetheless, he also knew this widow was dangerous, and no ordinary man could handle her.

Andrew replied, Madam Vostokoff, its too early for compliments.

Now that Atlas and Finleys plan has failed, you two are in danger.

Natasha dropped her flirtatious manner and asked seriously, Mr.

Lloyd, please explain ! Dylan also grew serious, waiting for Andrew to continue.

Andrew explained, Atlass Northern District is much stronger than both your territories combined,  
especially with Finleys elite sect backing them.

Since they failed to convince you to stay neutral, Atlas will definitely strike first and try to eliminate one of you when you least expect it.

That bastard wouldnt dare! Natasha slammed the table in anger.

Its not about guts its what he must do, Andrew said gravely.

If Atlas doesnt act immediately, once you two join forces, his dream of controlling Jayrodales underworld becomes much harder.

If I were him, the best move would be to strike quickly and take out one side before you can form an alliance.

Chapter 282 Then dealing with the remaining side would be effortless since theyd be standing alone, Andrew concluded

Dylan nodded in agreement.

Mr.

Lloyds absolutely right.

We could see Atlass intentions

from his all out attack on South City he wanted to eliminate obstacles quickly.

Unfortunately for him, Griffin got taken out by Mr.

Lloyd, which forced him to abort his plans.

Il You killed Griffin, Mr.

Lloyd ? Natasha asked in shock, studying Andrew up and down with undisguised curiosity.

This pretty boy had impressive guts and eloquence, and his intelligence was extraordinary, but Dylan was suggesting he had also taken down Griffin, Atlas right hand man.

Could he be exceptional in combat as well? Taking him down was pure luck, nothing worth making a fuss about, Andrew replied calmly

Natasha batted her eyes, smiling seductively.

Dont be so modest, Mr.

Lloyd.

Even if it was luck, youre still a true hero.

Ive been a widow for so long, and Ive never met such a capable young man like you.

I hate to admit it, but Im quite drawn to you.

Natasha was indeed bewitchingly beautiful

Though she was older, her skin remained youthful! and smooth, rivaling that of any young girl.

More importantly, she possessed a mature allure that younger women lacked, making every movement captivating

Combined with her powerful position and intriguing widow status, Natasha could make any young mans head spin.

In fact, even Dylan found himself somewhat affected by her charms

However, Andrew seemed completely immune to Natashas flirtations

He simply cleared his throat and replied, Lets focus on the important matters first.

For South City and West End to survive, I see only one solution.

Please tell us, Mr.

Lloyd, Natasha urged

While she was indeed flirting with Andrew, she immediately became serious about West Ends survival, revealing there was more to this widow than met the eye.

Right now, an alliance between your two territories is inevitable, Andrew stated.

Without joining forces, you'll be sitting ducks neither of you can match Atlas and Finley alone.

After a moment of silence, Natasha gritted her teeth and said, Atlas is a wolf in sheeps clothing, and I almost fell for his trap

Fine, for West Ends future, Im willing to ally with Mr.

Garner South City.noveldrama

Thats exactly the attitude I was hoping for when I came to East Side tonight, Dylan exclaimed joyfully. Natasha turned to Andrew with a playful pout.

But whats next? Mr.

Lloyd, you need to find us a way to survive.

Andrews eyes narrowed as he said coldly, The next step, naturally, is to find a way to take down

Northern District.

Natasha frowned.

Northern District is powerful and they have Hidden Dragons Finley stirring up trouble.

Even if Mr.

Garner and I join forces, our chances of winning a war against them are slim.

Besides, West End has always been neutral.

I don't want to break the status quo by striking first.

Andrew was not surprised by this response.

After all, Natasha had always been conservative in protecting West End, unlike Dylan.

Getting her to launch an offensive was impossible, so Andrew smiled and said, There are many ways to

take down Northern District it doesn't necessarily mean going to war with them directly.

Mr.

Lloyd, do you have other methods in mind ? Dylan asked eagerly.

Natasha listened intently, her expression uncertain

If this pretty boy were really that incredible and could find a way to destroy Atlas Northern District, she would willingly strip down and please Andrew right then and there.

Chapter 283 Faced with the eager gazes of the two crime lords Andrew simply smiled and stopped talking , picking up his tea instead.

Dylan caught on quickly and slapped his forehead.

He said, Mr.

Lloyd has already helped us so much with both his wisdom and courage, while Madam Vostokoff and I have been doing nothing! Turning to Natasha, he added, Madam Vostokoff, Mr.

Lloyd's assistance comes with certain conditions.

As it should, Natasha nodded

She no longer dared to underestimate Andrew, knowing that capable people always had their own terms. Deliberately pulling down her neckline to reveal more cleavage, Natasha smiled flirtatiously at Andrew.

Mr.

Lloyd, youre a young man in your prime.

Usually, men want either money or women.

I wonder if my beauty catches your eye.

If youre interested, Id be willing to warm your bed tonight.

Dylan watched with envy

Natasha was a stunning widow with both power and influence.

When he saw Natasha offering herself to Andrew, he could not help but think Andrew was a lucky man. However, Dylan remained cautious.

Natashas usual strategy involved using her body to attract talented young men and skilled fighters, making them devoted to her through their desire for her charms.

South City might lose its favored position with West End if Andrew fell for her.

To his surprise, Andrew just shook his head with a smile and said, Madam Vostokoff, youre indeed stunning, but I prefer rare medicinal herbs.

Natasha was deeply disappointed and readjusted her dress.



She had already lowered herself multiple times tonight to flirt with Andrew, but this young man not only rejected her verbally -his eyes had remained indifferent throughout.

Natasha knew such men were the hardest to manipulate, and trying to win them over with beauty was pointless

After thinking momentarily, she said, We dont have medicinal herbs in West End since weve never needed them

However, I know people who have them, and once you tell us how to bring down Northern District, Ill get them for you

Andrew set down his teacup and said, With your word, Ill get straight to the point.

First, we can be certain that neither of your territories can match Atlas in a direct confrontation.

Therefore, we must rule out a head on fight with Northern District ! Correct, Natasha agreed

West End would never engage in such a costly battle.

But I cant think of any other way to bring Atlass Northern District down.

She continued, In Jayrodales underworld, Atlas has been as steady as a rock for years.

Many have tried various schemes to eliminate him, but they all failed and ended up destroying themselves instead! I once sent assassins after Atlas, Dylan said gravely ..noveldrama

But it was useless because Atlas is too powerful, even stronger than both me and Madam Vostokoff.

All the assassins ended up dead

And then theres Finley, that playboy from Hidden Dragons, Natasha added seriously.

Despite his vices, hes at least a junior grandmaster in combat.

These two alone are more than either West End or South City can handle individually.

Chapter 284 Not to mention, Atlas has many other skilled fighters under his command, Natasha added. Andrews eyes gleamed as he replied, Thats why a direct confrontation with Northern District wont work you need to play it smart

History shows that even the most impenetrable walls arent broken from the outside, but rather crumble from within.

Mr.

Lloyd, are you suggesting we target Northern Districts internal personnel ? Dylan asked with furrowed brows.

Andrew smiled.

More specifically, you need to target the relationship between Atlas and Finley.

Theyre the two pillars of the Northern District together, you cant beat them

But if they turn against each other and start fighting among themselves, wouldnt that be your opportunity

? Natasha pouted.

Mr.

Lloyd, sowing discord between them might sound simple, but its impossible.

Atlas relies heavily on Finley, and though Finley is arrogant, he respects Atlas.noveldrama

Getting them to turn against each other wont be easy! Of course, you wont have a chance while their interests align, Andrew said casually.

But if theres no conflict between them naturally, youll have to create one.

Dylan surrendered.

My head hurts... I cant keep up with your thinking, Mr.

Lloyd

Just tell us what Madam Vostokoff and I need to do

What does Atlas like to do? Does he have any weaknesses or ... women hes particularly fond of ?  
Natasha scoffed.

Atlas is only interested in becoming the leader of Jayrodales underworld.

He doesnt really mess with women, except for this one actress he keeps shes like his confidante.  
Not many people know about this, Dylan added.

But Ive done some digging.

I heard he really spoils her bought her a mansion, luxury cars, and spent big money promoting her career.

Andrew took a sip of tea and smiled.

Theres your opportunity thats the perfect angle to work with.

Dylan chimed in, Not many people know about her, but I dug into it.

Atlas spoils her.

He -bought her fancy houses and luxury cars, and he even spent big money to support her career. Andrew took a sip of tea and smiled.

Theres your opportunity

Its the perfect angle to work with

Natashas eyes lit up as she caught on.

Mr.

Lloyd, are you suggesting we use this actress to create a scandal with Finley, then make sure Atlas finds out about it? Something like that, Andrew replied.

However, your conflict with Northern District.

shouldnt harm the actress.

Though people in your world might not care about honor, youll need to respect my principles on this.

Andrews expression turned serious as he spoke, and his commanding presence made Dylan instinctively lower his head.

On the other hand, Natashas heart skipped a beat, finding his serious demeanor quite intimidating

As someone trained in martial arts, Natasha knew that only highly skilled fighters could project such an

aura

She grew increasingly curious about this mans true identity.

Natasha said, Mr.

Lloyd, Ive met this actress a few times

Shes a piece of work vain, petty, and downright nasty.

You really dont need to care about someone like her.

Her words were sharp, laced with unmistakable disdain.

Chapter 285 Andrew shook his head.

Madam Vostokoff, despite what you say, Id like to confirm this myself.

I have my own principles, and if my plan ends up harming innocent people, I wouldnt Natasha chuckled,

I understand youre kind hearted, Mr.

Lloyd

Actually, after your insights, I already have a plan to create conflict between Finley and Atlas.

Tomorrow, as West Ends leader, Ill host a gala here

Atlass attention seeking mistress will definitely show up uninvited, and as our honored guest, you can see for yourself if what I said is true.

That works.

Ill come see for myself tomorrow, Andrew agreed.noveldrama

Dylan grinned.

Its a great plan.

At the gala, you can set the stage for that pervert Finley to make his move on Atlas mistress.

Sparks will fly for sure.

Natasha smirked

Knowing Finleys nature, he wont be able to resist her

And that womans no saint either theyll hit it off immediately.

Andrew checked his watch.

Its getting late, Dylan.

We should go

Dylan stood up, feeling relieved.

Thank goodness you came with me, Mr.

Lloyd.

What seemed like a huge problem got solved just like that it feels great.

Natasha stood up as well and gave Andrew a meaningful look.

Mr.

Lloyd, its so late.

Why dont you stay here in West End for the night? What about me, Madam Vostokoff? Dylan joked.

The warmth drained from Natashas smile as she said flatly, Mr.

Garner, I think youd be more comfortable heading back to South City.

My place is a little too modest to host you.

Dylan was stunned but then shook his head with a forced laugh.

The difference in treatment was truly something else.

Mr.

Lloyd, would you like to stay? Dylan asked Andrew.

In his view, since Natasha was being so forward, Andrew might as well stay and enjoy himself with her. Though Natashas intentions were not innocent, Andrew had nothing to lose he could have a passionate night with the infamous black widow and gain closer ties with West End.

Andrew just felt a headache coming on.

While Natasha had been dropping hints all night; Lauren and Francesca had been bombarding his phone with messages

Hence, he had no interest in anything happening with Natasha.

After Andrew and Dylan left, Natasha called out to the hallway, You can all come in now.

West Ends top fighters, who had been waiting outside, immediately entered the conference room

Madam, are you really going to ally with South City against Northern District? Antonio Torres, an elderly man with graying facial hair asked.

Yes, Natasha replied seriously.

We almost fell for Atlass scheme

If it werent for Andrew, who came with Dylan and opened my eyes, West End might have been in danger

Antonio was a highly respected figure in West End, and he scoffed.

In my opinion, Dylan and Andrew probably dont have good intentions either.

Every organization in Jayrodales underworld is just waiting for others to fall so they can take over.

Natasha waved dismissively.

Antonio, thats unfair.

That pretty boy isnt just good looking- his insight and knowledge are extraordinary.

More importantly, Dylan accidentally revealed that Andrew was the one who killed Griffin.

Dont you think theres more to this young man than meets the eye?

Chapter 286 Antonio trembled in anger as he exclaimed in disbelief, That pretty boy is stick thin! How could he possibly take down Griffin? It must be Dylan spreading smoke and mirrors

Natasha smirked with a shake of her head.



I doubt it.

Andrew has already proven himself at the Weller residence.noveldrama

He faced off against their senior fighter and walked away unscathed

How many people do you think could manage that? Antonio fell silent, his brow furrowing in thought. Someone spoke up, But Madam, the Northern District is incredibly powerful.

We were better off staying neutral allying with Dylans South City is practically declaring war on Atlas.

I thought the same way before, Natasha replied.

But Andrew was right Atlas is ambitious and cunning.

If we do nothing while he takes down Dylan, West End will be next on his list.

Antonio voiced his concerns, Thats true, but Northern District isnt just Atlas theres also Finley.

How confident can we be even with South Citys help? Natasha smiled mysteriously and said casually, Everyone, get some rest.

Dont worry about our chances.

Just trust me.

Andrew really opened my eyes tonight.

His strategic mind is truly terrifying! Antonio frowned, noticing Natashas flushed cheeks and subtle allure

Madam, you've been single for years... you're not actually interested in that pretty boy, are you? Natasha's blush deepened as she snapped, Antonio, aren't you overstepping? Besides, as a widow running this massive West End operation do you know how much pressure I'm under? Is it really too much to have some fun with a man I like? Antonio cleared his throat awkwardly.

Madam, we understand your position.

But someone of your status can have fun; just don't get serious.

Andrew might be clever and have some combat skills, but he's a nobody.

You deserve at least a prominent family's son or a powerful leader.

The other executives chimed in

Exactly! Madam, your status demands someone from our level, someone worthy of West End.

What if I just happen to like Andrew? Natasha purred with a radiant smile.

Antonio scoffed heavily.

If he wants into your bed, that boy better bring something valuable to West End.

A pretty face and smooth talk aren't enough

Enough, you all look pathetic, Natasha said in frustration.

I really did want to get him into bed tonight, but the damned boy kept refusing me it was almost humiliating.

Antonio stroked his beard and sneered.

Young people these days think they're so clever.

Hes probably just playing hard to get, like some social media dating strategy.

Its ridiculous.

Natasha yawned lazily and said, Alright, get some rest Im tired too

We have important business tomorrow, and will be there.

Ill see if I can get him to warm up to me then

Antonio and the others could only force awkward laughs before quickly departing.

They knew Natasha treated her subordinates well and was fiercely loyal

Combined with her exceptional combat skills and leadership, she maintained firm control over West End,

but she was still a woman and a straightforward one at that, sometimes even more straightforward than the toughest men.

This often left older members like Antonio at a loss for words.

Meanwhile, in the Northern District, a subordinate entered Atlass office to report.

Mr.

Giordano, our men watched until dawn, but Dylan and Andrew never left West Ends headquarters. Atlas extinguished his cigar and scoffed.

Natasha must have let them out through the set tunnels.

Damn it, it looks like Andrew has convinced her to ally with Dylan.

Should we proceed with the assassination attempts on Dylan and Andrew, Mr.

Giordano ? the subordinate asked.

Atlas waved dismissively.noveldrama

Dylan will be on high alert, so sending assassins would be suicide.

As for Andrew, I dont know his true capabilities yet.

We'll hold off to avoid tipping our hand.

The subordinate sneered

He looks like a weakling to me just a smooth talker with a pretty face. Give me a few good men, and I'll take care of him for you.

Atlas laughed coldly.

You fool.

Though I havent gauged his strength yet, you'd just get yourself killed. Our priority is taking down either West End or South City first.

Once I control Jayrodales underworld, that boy will be at my mercy.

The subordinate flushed red

Of course, Mr.

Giordano.

Ill take my leave.

Atlas stopped him, asking, Wheres Finley ? Madam Vostokoff is hosting a gala today and invited him.

He left early this morning with his entourage, all dressed up, the subordinate replied.

Atlas grunted in disapproval

Finley will get himself killed chasing women one of these days.

Still, let him go and probe Natashas intentions.

I hope that pretty widow is smart enough not to actually ally with Dylan and sign her own death warrant. After the subordinate left, Atlass phone buzzed

Seeing the caller ID, his rough face softened with a hint of indulgence as he answered.

Chapter 287 Missing me, baby? Atlas answered sweetly, his tough guy persona melting away.

On the other end of the line, a sweet, sultry voice whined, Baby, you havent been visiting lately. Have you found someone new ? Atlas chuckled.

Youre my one and only, my little star.

Be patient, baby.

Once I take care of some big business, Ill spoil you properly.

She giggled.

Youre terrible... Im not in the modd for your special juice lately.

Atlas roared with laughter.

It was moments like these that made her his favorite she always knew how to keep things playful and exciting.

Im going to a gala today, she continued, sounding pitiful.

Everyone there will be rich and powerful.

III look so plain, and theyll all look down on me its making me anxious.

Atlas made a grand gesture.

Baby, youre my woman.

Anyone who dares disrespect you must be tired of living.

Enjoy yourself and spend whatever you want.

III transfer money to you right now.

Chapter 288 Atlas mistress was overjoyed, showering him with sweet words over the phone.

Thank you, baby! III dress up beautifully for when you come Oh, Ive bought several sets of sexy lingerie -come rip them off me soon! 'Atlas laughed happily.

Dont worry, baby.

Once handle these important matters, III keep you busy for days.

After hanging up, Atlas felt deeply satisfied.

His empire was rising, with Northern District at its peak, and soon, he would devour both Natashas West End and Dylans South City

Then, he would rule Jayrodales underworld as its sole king, crushing Marvin, the Wellers, and Rhodes beneath his feet.

Meanwhile, in Andrews office at Jayrodale General Hospital, Francesca walked in to find Andrew in a sharp suit

Do you have a meeting or event? she asked with a smile behind her hand, admiring his tall, elegant figure

Neither just attending à gala, Andrew replied with a smile.

Francescas eyebrows furrowed with concern.

Are you going to a gala? Does Lauren know? Ms.

Rhodes doesnt know, but why do you ask? Andrew responded, surprised.

Are you really clueless or just pretending? Francesca pouted.

Youre Laurens man now.

Is it appropriate to go to a gala without her knowing ? Come on, Dr.

Aicker, Andrew said exasperatedly.

Theres nothing between Ms.

Rhodes and me dont play matchmaker.

Besides, Im going for business, not what you think.

Francescas face brightened.

Oh, I guess I overthought it.

Youre still trustworthy, after all.

She stepped closer to fix his tie, her subtle perfume reaching his nose as their faces drew near. Andrew coughed and stepped back.

All set ? Francesca smiled and complimented him, Yes, and honestly, youre quite handsome.

Much more masculine and attractive than those so called Jayrodale young masters like Harvey and Michael

Andrew rubbed his nose and smiled

Remember how much you disliked me at first? Francesca blushed, embarrassed.

That was before I got to know you.

Now were good friends, and Ive realized youre both capable and genuinely good.

If only... If only what? Andrew asked.

If Lauren hadnt claimed you first, I might have made a move myself, Francesca joked with a twinkle in her eye.

Andrew shook his head with a smile.

Youre Dr.

Alckers granddaughter and chief of this hospital



Your medical skills, family background, and education are outstanding, and you'll surely find someone much better than me.

Francesca's eyes dimmed.

Is that so? If only that were true. noveldrama

After checking the time, Andrew said, I should go.

Call me if anything comes up at the hospital.

Francesca forced a smile and replied, Go ahead, I've got things handled here.

Things are quiet except for Bernard connecting with Mr.

Bozzelli .

It looks like they're plotting something.

Andrew nodded.

Don't worry.

If Bernard tries anything, I won't go easy with him.

Once Andrew left, Francesca collapsed onto the sofa, hugging herself and lost in thought.

She mumbled aloud, What am I doing? Am I really falling for Andrew? He's Laurens man going after him would make me a terrible friend.

I can't do that to her !

## Chapter 289 Meanwhile in Scarlet Lounge, West End

Natasha had rented out the entire luxury resort for the event.

When Andrew and Dylan arrived, they saw that the entrance was lined with high end cars.

Stunning women in designer dresses and sharp looking men in tailored suits moved in and out of the venue, all exuding power and wealth.

Dylan leaned closer and whispered, Mr.

Lloyd, you might not know this, but Natashas not as conventional as she seems.

Shes been keeping West End in check for years, but behind the scenes, shes got ties with several high ranking officials and wealthy benefactors in Jayrodale.

A lot of the men here might just be liars ... admirers.

Andrew adjusted his crisp suit and replied casually, It was obvious last night Natasha knows how to use her charm to her advantage.noveldrama

Dylan smirked.

No doubt about it.

Those legs of hers? God knows how many men shes brought to their knees with them, willing to do anything for her

Andrew smiled faintly.

Smart women always know how to use their assets.

Thats not something someone like you, with all your bluntness, would understand.

Dylan chuckled.

You're right, Mr.

Lloyd

I'm just a regular guy, and I definitely don't have Natasha's ability to leave men powerless.

As they chatted, a bright pink Bentley pulled up to the resort's entrance, drawing every eye.

A valet jogged over to open the car door, revealing a curvy woman who stepped out with exaggerated grace

She was dripping in designer brands, her makeup thick, and she carried herself with the air of a spoiled diva

Dylan grinned and nudged Andrew.

Mr.

Lloyd, that's the star of tonight's event.

Atlas' mistress, the actress Yvonne Fuller.

Andrew stood a few steps away, quietly observing the woman as she exited the car.

Her face held a haughty, affected smile, as though she was judging everyone around her.

When the valet reached for the car keys, she sneered.

Make sure to clean the seat after you park it.

I don't want your filthy self leaving any marks.

The valet stammered, O Of course, Ms.

Fuller, before nervously driving off.

Just as Andrew was about to look away, another figure caught his eye a man in a loud, head- to toe red

outfit, including gaudy red loafers, swaggering toward the entrance.

It was Finley, his flamboyant style making him look like a strutting rooster.

Well, well, Mrs.

Giordano ! Fancy seeing you here.

Were you also invited by Madam Vostokoff? Perfect timing we can head in together! Finley exclaimed, his face lighting up when he saw her

Yvonne extended her perfectly manicured hand, letting Finley take it as she giggled.

Mr.

Moore, what a pleasant surprise

With you here, I'm sure tonight won't be boring

Would you mind being my dance partner later? Finley's eyes glinted with delight.

It would be an honor, Mrs.

Giordano.

III make sure we tear up the dance floor together! Andrew and Dylan watched as the two strutted inside, laughing and flirting.

Dylan snorted.

Honestly, with or without this gala, Id bet Finley and Yvonne are already involved.

Theres no way those two keep it clean behind closed doors.

Andrew raised an eyebrow.

If Yvonne's Atlas' mistress, why didn't Atlas come with her? Dylan hesitated, clearly caught off guard by the question.

Mr.

Lloyd, you're misunderstanding.

Yvonne and Atlas ... it's an affair.

Atlas likes to keep up appearances and protect his image.

Yvonne's just another plaything he's had his fun with.

He continued with a smirk.

If you asked Atlas about Yvonne, he'd deny everything and claim he never associates with actresses or models.

Andrew chuckled.

So, hes the type wholl enjoy it in secret but wont admit it publicly ? Dylan nodded eagerly. Exactly.

Thats what makes her his mistress

Yvonne's just a trophy a pampered little pet that Atlas spoils when hes in the mood.

Chapter 290 Dylan said, Atlas would never lower himself to be seen publicly with Yvonne, no matter how much fun she was behind closed doors.

Andrew nodded.

Lets head inside and meet with Madam Vostokoff.

Dylan was just about to agree when he suddenly stopped and let out a sharp, Huh? Mr.

Lloyd, check that out another attention seeking diva just showed up.

Andrew followed Dylan's gaze and frowned.

She looks familiar.

Dylan smirked

Thats Serena Halbert, the widow of the late Kane.

Shes got quite a reputation.

Andrew's expression turned curious.

You seem to know quite a lot about these women

Π Dylan scratched his head awkwardly, blushing slightly.

Well, I wouldn't say I know them, but I've heard the gossip.

He continued, leaning in conspiratorially.

Take Serena, for instance

She's nearly 20 years younger than Kane, making her about 32 now.

She was at her prime, but Kane was already a frail, sickly old man.

There's no way he could keep up with her.

Lowering his voice further, he added, And the rumor mill says Serena's been getting a little too close to Harvey.

If you ask me, the moral compass of these wealthy families is nonexistent, Andrew glanced at Dylan,

who was shaking his head in mock disappointment, his tone dripping with judgment.

It was hard to reconcile this gossip-loving side of Dylan with his usual image as a ruthless South City crime lord

Andrew sighed and said, If you have time for all this nonsense, you should use it to train and improve your skills instead

Dylan laughed sheepishly.

Mr.

Lloyd, it's not just idle chatter! Think about it if I dig up proof of that little scandal between Serena and Harvey, imagine how much I could extort from the Weller family! Andrew raised an eyebrow, then gave a slow, approving nod

Dylan, youre a genius

As they spoke, Serena entered the resort, exuding charm in a high slit dress that accentuated every curve

Halfway to the entrance, a young man appeared out of nowhere and exchanged a few whispered jokes with her

He made her laugh so hard that she playfully punched him in the arm.

Dylans eyes widened, and he let out a theatrical gasp.

Mr.

Lloyd, this is unbelievable! That guy who just popped up? Thats Michael! Is Michael about to become Harveys stepfather! Andrew could not help rolling his eyes.

Dylan, who was supposed to be focused on their business here, had turned into a walking tabloid.

Nonetheless, even he could not deny the strange dynamic between Serena and Michael, whose flirtatious gestures and lingering touches screamed anything but platonic

Rich people are a mess, Andrew muttered under his breath, shaking his head.

Before he could say more, another luxury car pulled up

The door opened, revealing a striking woman in a flowing white dress.

Andrew stiffened

Dylan, lets go.



Now

However, it was too late.

The woman spotted him and quickly walked over, lighting up

Andrew, I didnt expect to see you here ! her expression Andrews face remained neutral as he turned to her.

Ms.

Stevens, do you need something? Christina opened her mouth to respond, but before she could say a word, the other side of the car opened.

Another woman stepped out, her expression cold and her posture haughty.

With a sharp glance, she sneered.

So, youre the Andrew Lloyd that Christina ke mentioning? She chuckled dryly.noveldrama

Well, III admit, you dont look terrible, but lets be real youre nowhere near good enough for someone like Christina.