### The Kiss That Sparked it All Chapter 1271

#### Chapter 1271

Recently, Belinda had been popping up here quite often. So when the doorbell rang, Collin naturally thought it was her again. But it turned out to be Mr. Blanchet's friend, Sophia.

Sophia didn't seem surprised when Collin opened the door. She already knew this was cooked up by Theo.

"Collin, is Ellinor home? I'd like to see her."

Sophia's sudden arrival made Collin a bit jumpy. He was worried about what drama might kick off if the two girls met, given that they had already had a run-in

before.

"Yes, Ellinor's home, Ms. Sophia. What's up?"

Sophia came to invite Ellinor to her birthday dinner.

Collin'

seemed a bit uneasy. "Um..."

Sophia knew what Collin was worried about. She chuckled. "Relax; I've already run this by Theo. He's cool with it."

"I see. Well, make yourself at home in the living room. I'll go fetch Ellinor. But she might be taking a nap."

Sophia breezily shook her head. "No problem. If she's napping, don't wake her. I can wait. No rush."

Collin thanked Sophia for her understanding and then made his way to Ellinor's room

Ellinor wasn't sleeping. She was scrolling through online stores on her phone, looking to buy some baby clothes. Her due date was approaching, and she had a lot

to prepare.

After hearing Collin knock, she got up to open the door.

Collin respectfully said, "Ellinor, Ms. Sophia is here to see you."

Ellinor yawned. "Tell her I'm not home."

Collin awkwardly replied, "Um, she knows you're home. She's waiting for you in the living room."

Without saying much, Ellinor tried to close the door.

Just then, Sophia approached with a friendly smile. "Ellinor."

A glint of annoyance flashed through Ellinor's eyes after seeing Sophia rudely appear somewhere other than the living room. She asked, "What do you want?" Sophia pulled out a fancy invitation from her bag. "I want to invite you to my birthday dinner. If you have other friends, feel free to bring them along. I always love a good crowd."

Ellinor glanced at the invitation. "Ms. Sophia, do you think I'm in any condition to attend a dinner party?"

Sophia eyed Ellinor's baby bump. "Of course you are! Ellinor, you can have juice instead of wine. I hear pregnant women can be sensitive. It's good for you to get out, socialize, and chat with friends."

With a polite smile, Ellinor handed back the invitation. "Thanks for the thought, but I'm a bit of a couch potato. I don't fancy pointless socializing."

But Sophia seized this opportunity to grasp her hand tightly as her expression brimmed with 'sincerity.' "Ellinor, I really hope you can make it. I don't have many friends here. I'd really like to be friends with you. Can you take pity on me and think it over?"

Ellinor pulled her hand back and shook it, like she had just touched something vile and disgusting

### The Kiss That Sparked it All Chapter 1272

Posted by **AbMark**, 102 Views, Released on September 25, 2023

#### Chapter 1272

"Sophia, this doesn't feel like a genuine invite. It's more like you're forcing me to accept. Are you implying that I'm some cold-hearted witch if I don't go?"

Sophia was left speechless by Ellinor's rebuttal.

So, she handed the invitation to Collin, who was standing nearby, and turned back to Ellinor. "Ellinor, I really do want you to come. Maybe I was a bit pushy and made you uncomfortable. I'm sorry. Here's the invitation. Theo's friends will be at my birthday dinner too. I hope you can make it! I'll get going now; I don't want to disturb your rest."

After speaking, she turned to Collin and spoke in a friendly tone. "Collin, take good care of Ellinor while you're here for Theo, okay?"

Collin nodded. "I will."

Sophia picked up her bag and left, smiling.

up he

Collin didn't see her out because he didn't want to upset Ellinor. He was left holding the invitation, unsure of what to do next.

"Ms. Sophia and Mr. Blanchet are just ordinary friends. Please don't misunderstand them. Sophia has lived abroad since she was young. She may be a bit open and careless, but she's a good person. They met while studying abroad."

Ellinor's mouth twitched with sarcasm. "Friends? Does Mr. Blanchet usually get married to his friends?"

Collin was taken aback. "You already know it... Actually, that's because..."

Ellinor cut him off. "You don't have to explain! I don't care what the reason was; I don't want to know anymore."

After saying this, Ellinor retreated to her room and slammed the door.

Collin was left with a helpless expression, sighing deeply.

Ellinor returned to her room and continued browsing baby products online, but her mood was more restless than before. Even after seeing cute baby clothes, she felt no interest in buying them.

At night, Chase and Ida came home and found the invitation that Sophia had left.

Belinda and Byran also happened to visit, and the four of them discussed the intention behind the invitation.

Belinda said, "I know Sophia! She was a classmate of my uncle's in college. I heard she once did him a big favor, so he treats her as a friend. There's nothing improper between them; I can vouch for that!"

Byran snorted. "What are you vouching for? You didn't go to study with Theo, so how could you possibly know everything? I think Theo is more polite to Sophia than he was to my sister before. She might be Theo's first love!"

Belinda glared at Byran. "Stop talking nonsense! My uncle's first love is Ellinor! He's a very upright person!"

Byran looked skeptical. "Theo is so handsome! You really believe he's still single at 30? All the girls in school are crazy about him. Theo is a man, so who knows if he can resist such temptation."

Belinda put her hands on her hips, retorting. "How do you know all the girls in school are into him? Have you had any experience? You talk like you're very experienced, didn't you resist temptation?"

"I have no experience! Don't slander me!" Byran quickly looked at Ida, afraid she would misunderstand, but Ida was just looking at her phone, seemingly not listening to their conversation.

Belinda rolled her eyes. "You don't want to be slandered, but you can slander my uncle? Be careful, or I'll tell your brother you're harassing girls at school!"

Byran was left speechless. "You..."

### The Kiss That Sparked it All Chapter 1273

Posted by AbMark, 102 Views, Released on September 25, 2023

Chapter 1273

Chase spoke with a grin. "Alright, cut the crap, you two. This invitation feels like a declaration of war against our boss."

Belinda and Byran looked at Chase as their faces filled with surprise.

"A declaration of war?"

"A declaration of war?"

Belinda and Byran exchanged glances and found themselves agreeing with Chase's theory.

At this point, Collin, who was standing in the hallway, couldn't bear to listen anymore and came to explain on Mr. Blanchet's behalf. "Don't get it twisted, folks. Mr. Blanchet just played the friendly card and helped Ms. Sophia invite some friends to support her. The costs and the venue for the party are all on Ms. Sophia. Mr. Blanchet wasn't a part of it."

Chase, Belinda, and Byran raised their heads to look at Collin.

Ida also looked up, shifting her gaze from her smartphone screen to Collin's face.

Belinda began to speak. "Humph, if they're just friends, then why would he help her invite people? Doesn't he know that his status is kinda special? How many people will take him helping a girl invite guests like this the wrong way? Isn't he afraid Ellinor will blow a fuse?"

Collin was at a loss for words.

Byran chimed in. "Exactly! Girls are the most jealous creatures! It's one thing for Theo to have female friends, but helping them out this much? No wonder Ellinor doesn't want anything to do with Theo! Unlike me, since I got Ida, I stopped talking to any girl at school. I keep my distance on purpose."

Ida smirked. "No one asked you to do that."

Byran put on a proud yet somewhat pleasing face. "I would do it even without you asking! Because I like you."

Ida couldn't stand his cuteness anymore, so she got up and said, "You guys chat; I'm going to check on our boss."

With that, she left.

Byran held his head high. "Ah, Ida's shy again."

Belinda rolled her eyes disdainfully.

Chase took a sip of his coffee, raising an eyebrow at Collin. "So, on that day, will Mr. Blanchet personally go to celebrate Miss Sophia's birthday?" Collin answered truthfully. "Mr. Blanchet will probably drop by to say hi."

Chase sneered. "Ah, it seems that Mr. Blanchet is the most annoying type of man. The type who pretends to be all lovey-dovey but, in private, flirts with every

woman."

Collin frowned. "That's not true! I'm always with Mr. Blanchet; I can vouch for him; he rarely interacts with women. He's polite to Ms. Sophia because she's doing him a huge favor."

Chase asked curiously. "What favor is she doing for him?"

Collin became very serious. "I can't disclose that."

Chase laughed lightly. "You can't say it because you're guilty! Let him get cozy with that Sophia girl! And stop bothering my boss! And you, stop hanging around our doorstep! This is so boring."

Collin remained silent.

"The Kiss That Sparked it All ( Ellinor )" A romance novel or romantic novel

### The Kiss That Sparked it All Chapter 1274

Posted by **AbMark**, 102 Views, Released on September 25, 2023

Chapter 1274

Belinda couldn't make excuses for her uncle anymore. "Collin, you don't need to cover up for Theo anymore. Your explanations sound more like you're trying to cover up the truth! I don't know what Theo has been up to recently either. He hasn't even visited Ellinor, and I'm done making excuses for him!"

Collin had no comeback. He knew Mr. Blanchet had his reasons.

Without acknowledging the men any further, Belinda stood up and walked to Ellinor's room, where Ida was keeping her company.

Ellinor, have you made up your mind yet? Are you going or not?" Belinda asked as she sat down next to them.

Ellinor gave Belinda a lazy glance. "Go where?"

Belinda got what Ellinor meant immediately but was a bit peeved. "But Sophia has already sent the invitation; don't you plan on going?"

Ellinor shrugged. "Which law states that you have to go just because you received an invitation?"

Belinda turned to Ida. "What about you? Would you go?"

Ida adjusted her gold-framed glasses with elegance. "If I have the time, I would probably go."

Belinda asked curiously, "Why?"

"I could go when I'm bored. Who knows? I might meet some handsome men."

"Err... well..."

Now that was a reason!

"What?" Byran frowned and walked in, looking unhappy.

After seeing Byran coming in, Ida felt a headache brewing and rubbed her forehead. "This is a girl's room. Who let you in?"

Byran only cared about what he wanted to know. "Ida, what did you just say? I'm right here, and you still want to meet handsome men?"

Ida rolled her eyes at him. "I was just saying."

Byran's eyes widened, looking both innocent and dominant. "You can't just say things like that!"

Ida felt a headache coming on. "Wait for me in my room; I'll explain it to you there."

Byran was a bit taken aback after hearing that he was to wait for her in her room. His face softened a bit, and he raised his head arrogantly. "Then you better hurry!" After watching Byran smugly walk out of the room, Ida sighed and then turned to Ellinor. "Oh, Boss, I almost forgot to tell you something."

Ellinor raised an eyebrow. "What?"

"The owner of SummitView Hotel is actually an art collector. He's collected many famous paintings over the years, including an unpublished self-portrait by Lady Lotus. He's planning to exhibit it soon."

Ellinor's casual expression suddenly turned serious. "Is this information reliable?"

Ida nodded. "Yes! Those paintings are part of his private collection; they are rarely seen by the public. However, the SummitView Hotel he manages has been having difficulties recently, and business isn't going well. To attract highend customers, he recently announced that he would exhibit his private collection of famous paintings at any banquets held at his hotel to add a high-class atmosphere."

Ellinor hadn't seen her mother's work in public for a long time, and the painting to be displayed was her mother's self-portrait.

What did her mother's self-portrait look like? At what age did she paint it? Ellinor desperately wanted to know and see it for herself.

But the name SummitView Hotel sounded familiar. She seemed to have seen it somewhere recently.

Ida gently adjusted her gold-framed glasses with her slender fingers. "Yes.

"The Kiss That Sparked it All ( Ellinor )" A romance novel or romantic novel

### The Kiss That Sparked it All Chapter 1275

Chapter 1275

ida nodded. "Unless something unexpected happens, that should be the case."

Ellinor immediately perked up. "What about the invitation?"

Belinda snapped back to reality and quickly went out to fetch the invitation. "Here you go! The invitation's right here."

Ida had already expected this outcome, so she wasn't surprised. "Boss, I'll go book a suitable outfit for you now."

Ellinor nodded in agreement.

Ida got up to arrange for her boss's outfit. The banquet was the day after tomorrow. If she didn't hurry, they might run out of time.

After Ida left, Belinda curiously approached Ellinor. "Auntie, why did you suddenly change your mind?"

Ellinor gave her a stern look. "What did you call me?"

Belinda quickly corrected herself. "Ellinor... Why did you suddenly change your mind? Who's Lady Lotus? Do you really like her paintings?"

"Are you asking all these questions to report back to your uncle?"

Belinda looked a bit guilty and awkwardly laughed. "No! I'm just curious as to why you suddenly changed your mind. Just now, you seemed uninterested."

Ellinor gave her a small smile. "Aren't people known to be fickle? Alright, you should head home too. Stop hanging around here!"

"Oh..." Belinda didn't ask anything else and left the room feeling disappointed. She thought for a moment and secretly sent a message to her uncle. "Theo! Ellinor seems to really like the paintings by an artist named Lady Lotus! It's your time to shine!"

However, she didn't receive a reply from Theo.

Ellinor changed into the outfit that Ida had urgently custom-made for her at home and put on some light makeup.

She was pregnant now, so she had put on some weight, and squeezing into this outfit was a bit uncomfortable. But if she dressed too casually for the banquet, it might draw unnecessary attention.

She could only try to blend in as much as possible.

The outfit was made of light pink silk, which complemented her skin tone and looked adorable on her round figure. She didn't bother with a fancy hairstyle, simply tying her hair into a bun.

As she descended the stairs, two cars were waiting for her.

One was sent by Ida to take her to the banquet.

The other was the Blanchet family's car, driven by Collin.

Without thinking too much about it, Ellinor started walking towards the car sent by Ida, but Collin stopped her.

"Ellinor, please get in my car. Mr. Blanchet asked me to pick you up."

Ellinor frowned. "Why should I get in the car arranged by Mr. Blanchet? We're all going to the same place. What's the difference if I ride in his car?"

Collin explained. "Mr. Blanchet doesn't feel comfortable with you riding in someone else's car. I'm a steady driver, and you're pregnant now, so we need to be extra careful."

"The Kiss That Sparked it All ( Ellinor )" A romance novel or romantic novel

### The Kiss That Sparked it All Chapter 1276

#### Chapter 1276

This guy! Was he still worrying about the child in her belly? Was he afraid that something might go wrong?

He was really going too far!

As a mom, she wouldn't allow her child to get hurt, let alone have any connection with him!

Ellinor walked past Collin, but he tried to stop her. "Ellinor..."

"Beat it!"

Ellinor coldly warned him and made him back off. Then she got into Ida's car.

However, Collin didn't give up. He ran to the driver's side of her car. After a brief chat with the driver, the driver got out of the car and left.

Ellinor was speechless.

At this point, she didn't have the energy to argue anymore. It didn't matter who drove. It was fine as long as they could get her to her destination.

SummitView Hotel.

The car stopped on the slope in front of the hotel lobby, right at the entrance.

The doorman came up respectfully to open the car door, and Ellinor got out of the car with the help of the doorman.

Collin also got out of the car, handed the car keys to the doorman for parking, and then followed closely behind Ellinor, accompanying her inside.

Ellinor was quite heavy, so her pace was slower. Collin also slowed down, carefully accompanying her, afraid that she might slip.

There were already many guests in the venue; it was very lively.

Ellinor's gaze passed over the crowd as she looked at a painting on the wall of the banquet hall, looking for the one she wanted to see.

"Ellinor!"

Someone called her name.

She recognized the voice as Sophia's, but Ellinor didn't immediately look over. Her eyes were still seemingly casually scanning the wall not far away. Sophia walked up to her with a beaming smile. "Ellinor, I'm so glad you're here! I knew you would come for me!"

Ellinor looked at her, gave a slight smile, and didn't say much.

She came, not for Sophia, but for her mother's legacy.

However, Sophia wasn't really welcoming her either; she was just pretending.

Sophia looked up at Collin, who was behind Ellinor, and then looked around. "Ellinor, didn't Theo come with you?"

What an interesting question! Ellinor laughed and said, "How would I know if he came or not? If you want to know, you can call him yourself!"

That was actually quite funny. They were legally married, so why would she ask Ellinor, an outsider, about her husband's whereabouts?

Sophia's smile was still radiant. "Right! I'll call Theo later then!"

Collin started to explain. "Ms. Sophia, there's no need to call. Mr. Blanchet is a bit busy right now. He'll come later after he's done."

"I see!" Sophia nodded. "Well, Ellinor, let me introduce you to our mutual friends!"

"The Kiss That Sparked it All ( Ellinor )" A romance novel or romantic novel

# The Kiss That Sparked it All Chapter 1277

Chapter 1277

Mutual friends?

How on earth could those two have mutual friends?

"No need, Ms. Sophia. Please go entertain the other guests. I'm fine on my own."

But Sophia insisted. "No can do. Ellinor, you're pregnant; you can't be on your feet for too long! Come, let me find you a seat and get you some food and drinks." Sophia's enthusiasm was so overwhelming that Ellinor couldn't refuse; even though she wasn't particularly fond of Sophia, she had no choice but to follow her.

Sophia led her to the VIP area, where there were sofas, but it was far from quiet, as three men were occupying the sofas.

Jonah was holding a glass of wine and having a grand old time chatting with Kemp and Bartlett. Upon seeing Sophia bring someone over, he stopped his joke mid-sentence and squinted his eyes. "Oh! I was wondering who that was. It's the Ellinor who ran away from Theo with the baby."

Ellinor shot Jonah a glance and ignored him.

Kemp was somewhat surprised to see Ellinor, as a courtesy, he nodded at her as a greeting.

As for Bartlett, the smile on his face never faded after seeing Ellinor.

Sophia brought Ellinor in front of them. "Ellinor, you know these guys, right? Sit here for a bit; I'll get someone to bring you some food."

Ellinor didn't bother being polite and just sat down on an empty sofa.

Sophia then spoke to Jonah and the others, still all smiles. "I need to go attend to my friends who've come to celebrate my birthday. I'm counting on you guys to look after Ellinor!"

Jonah, with a smirk on his face, raised his glass. "Sure! No problem! We can catch up; it's been a while. Right, Ellinor?"

Ellinor still ignored him.

"Great! I can rest easy knowing you guys are watching Ellinor. I'll be over there then." Sophia gave Ellinor a deep look, then turned and left with a smile. The moment Sophia walked away, Jonah moved to the seat next to Ellinor, looking at her. "You're pretty far along; when's the baby due?"

Bartlett was about to move over as well, but Jonah beat him to it, so he silently returned to his original seat. "Jonah, don't provoke her!" Jonah looked at Bartlett. "I'm just asking when the baby's due; I didn't say anything else Bartlett, why are you so protective of her?"

Bartlett didn't explain; he just smiled and said, "It's everyone's responsibility to protect pregnant women."

Jonah chuckled. "You can stop pretending! I can see you're having some inappropriate thoughts again; be careful or Theo might get upset."

Bartlett's smile remained, but his eyes dimmed slightly.

Jonah didn't notice anything wrong with his joke. He turned back to Ellinor and continued talking to her with a wicked grin on his face. "Ellinor, you're really something. You actually had the guts to abandon Theo twice!"

Ellinor took a sip of the juice the waiter handed her, stirred the ice cubes with the straw, raised an eyebrow, and said, "Jonah, watch your tone. I didn't abandon him." Jonah asked with interest. "You didn't abandon him? Then, what do you call sneaking off?"

Ellinor replied. "I didn't sneak off; I left openly."

"Alright, I'll give you that you left openly, but why? Isn't it nice to be with Theo, to be Mrs. Blanchet?"

Ellinor gave him a small smile. "Do you think being Mrs. Blanchet is nice?"

Jonah laughed. "Of course! There are so many who want to be Mrs. Blanchet but can't."

Ellinor scoffed. "Then why don't you go for it? You and Theo have known each other for many years, and since you're close, I bet he'd be happy to grant your wish." Jonah's smile froze, and then he made a gesture like he was protecting his chest. "What a joke! I like women! Even if Theo was willing, I wouldn't be!"

# The Kiss That Sparked it All Chapter 1278

Chapter 1278

"What's got your knickers in a twist?"

A cold and stem voice echoed from behind them.

Everyone tumed to see Theo's tall figure strolling towards them.

Jonah quickly forced a laugh. "Theo, you're here! It's nothing! I was just messing around with Ellinor. That's all!"

Kemp shot Jonah a glare. "He says he doesn't want to be your wife. If anything, he'd rather be your husband."

Theo frowned; his gaze on Jonah was filled with distaste.,

low, che

Jonah awkwardly chuckled, shot Kemp a dirty look, and got up from the couch to make room for Theo.

'Kemp, that's a

blow. I never said that last part." Jonah retorted.

While keeping a poker face, Kemp solemnly replied, "You didn't say it, but it's what you were thinking."

"You're really crossing the line!"

Jonah vacated the seat next to Ellinor for Theo, opting to sit next to Kemp instead. However, Theo didn't take the seat next to Ellinor. Instead, he went around to sit on a single couch.

This move seemed trivial, but it cast a cold chill over the room.

Jonah and Kemp exchanged glances.

At this point, Bartlett stood up with a smile, took the cold drink from Ellinor's hand, and gently said, "Don't drink this. I'll get you a cup of hot milk in a bit."

Ellinor nodded. "Thanks."

This entire time, she never once looked at Theo, fearing it would dampen her mood.

She was here to find her mother's self-portrait, not to chat with these men.

She was getting irritated.

Jonah picked up a glass of wine, walked over to Theo, and handed it to him. "What's up? You found her, so why haven't you two made up yet?"

Théo looked at him coldly, clinked glasses with him, and took a sip without a word.

Ellinor felt a chilly gaze on her, making her uncomfortable.

She couldn't stay seated any longer and asked Bartlett a question. "Where's the restroom?"

Bartlett pointed it out with a smile. "Over there. Want me to walk you?"

"Thank you, but no." Ellinor stood up and slowly walked towards the restroom.

She didn't actually need to go; she just wanted an excuse to leave.

Who would want to sit with them?

Now she could look around for her mother's portrait.

After watching Ellinor leave, Bartlett looked worried. He stood still for a few seconds and was about to follow her when he heard Theo's cold voice.

"Bartlett."

Bartlett paused and turned to Theo with a smile. "Theo, what's up? Need something?"

Theo squinted at him, and after a while, he said, "Nothing."

Bartlett was a bit annoyed, but he didn't say anything. When he looked back, Ellinor had disappeared. He scanned the room, spotting many of the other guests but

not her.

With no other choice, he returned to his seat.

Theo was lost in thought and sat expressionlessly in his seat. After draining his glass, he stood up.

# The Kiss That Sparked it All Chapter 1279

Chapter 1279

Jonah asked Theo. "Dude, you just got here. Where are you running off to now?"

Theo casually replied, "I've gotta make a phone call"

Jonah didn't push it. He turned to Kemp and said, "What do you think is up with Theo and Ellinor? Ellinor is pregnant, you know."

Kemp shot him a glance. "Mind your own business!"

Jonah just chuckled and then turned to Bartlett, who was sitting across from him, nursing a drink. "I couldn't help but notice that you seem pretty

concerned about Ellinor. You guys go way back or something? How come I've never heard about you guys being connected before?"

Bartlett smiled in response. "Didn't I tell you guys? I've known Ellinor for a long time, even before she met Theo."

Jonah paused for a second, sensing some underlying meaning in Bartlett's tone. He glanced at Kemp, and they exchanged a knowing look.

Bartlett downed his drink and put the empty glass on the table. "I've gotta step out for a call too."

Jonah was speechless. He watched as Bartlett walked away and then shook his head. "I bet they didn't go out to make a call. What do you think, Kemp?"

While swirling his half-empty glass, Kemp replied, "Maybe."

Jonah chuckled. "I bet they both went to find Ellinor."

Kemp didn't respond.

Instead of heading to the restroom, Ellinor walked along the wall of the banquet hall, looking at the famous paintings hanging there. She didn't spot her mother's self-portrait and started wondering if perhaps her mother's paintings weren't famous enough to be displayed here.

Just as she was feeling down, she heard a voice that made her feel even worse.

"Ellinor, why are you here all by yourself? Aren't you hanging out with Jonah and the others?"

Sophia spotted her and walked over with a big smile. She seemed pretty chummy with Jonah.

"I'm looking for the restroom." Ellinor replied.

Sophia looked around. "The restroom isn't around here, Ellinor. Are you looking for something? I noticed you've been looking around since you got here. What are you looking for? Tell me, and I'll help you find it."

Ellinor shook her head indifferently. "No, I'm just looking around."

"There are a lot of famous paintings displayed here. You could really broaden your horizons."

Ellinor gave a cold laugh, not wanting to argue. "Yeah! It's a great opportunity. I better make the most of this chance you've given me to broaden my horizons."

Sophia also laughed. "Ellinor, don't be like that! I know you had a tough childhood, but that's not your fault. Once we become friends, I can take you to many places like this to broaden your horizons."

Ellinor smiled in response. "Thanks in advance. Can I continue to broaden my horizons now?"

Sophia nodded. "Of course."

"Why are you still standing in front of me? Move it! I want to properly appreciate these rare masterpieces."

Sophia's face froze for a moment, but she quickly regained her smile. "Oh, I'm sorry! Did I block your way? Let me step aside for you. Ellinor, could you also make some room for me?"

# The Kiss That Sparked it All Chapter 1280

Chapter 1280

Ellinor found it hilarious. "Why should I step aside for you? Am I in your way?"

Sophia leaned in close to her ear. "You're not blocking my walking path, but you're definitely blocking my love path."

Ellinor's gaze was icy, like she was listening to a ridiculous joke. "Your love path has nothing to do with me!"

As Sophia was about to say something, she suddenly noticed a tall and graceful figure appearing behind Ellinor and started laughing. "Bartlett, how come you're

here?"

Bartlett walked over, glanced at Ellinor casually, and then smiled at Sophia. "I just stepped out to make a phone call. What are you two ladies chatting about?" Sophia glanced at Bartlett and then at Ellinor, as if she had realized something. Her smile revealed a hint of intrigue. "Oh, Ellinor mentioned she's quite interested in the paintings at the party. I'm worried about her walking around pregnant, but I have to attend to the guests, so, Bartlett, why don't you accompany Ellinor?"

Bartlett answered with a smile. "Sure, I'll take care of that!"

A glint flashed in Sophia's eyes. "Great, have fun you two. I won't disturb you!"

With that, Sophia disappeared gracefully into the crowd.

Bartlett watched Sophia's figure gradually disappear and then turned to Ellinor. "Didn't you say you were going to the restroom? How did you end up here?"

"So, after going to the restroom, I can't walk around? Do I have to go back and let you guys scrutinize me?"

Bartlett shrugged and laughed. "As you just saw, I didn't join them in discussing you."

Ellinor's opinion of Bartlett had changed a lot; after all, he was the one who had saved her life.

"Do you find them annoying as well?"

Bartlett laughed. "A bit, yeah."

Ellinor nodded. "I can tell."

Bartlett looked down at her feet. Ellinor had dressed up for the party today, but thankfully she didn't wear heels; she just wore a pair of simple white flats. Otherwise, she would definitely be uncomfortable.

"Do you want to check out the paintings at the party? Come on, I'll accompany you!" Bartlett gestured for her to go ahead.

Ellinor frowned, somewhat unhappy. "You don't need to accompany me. It's crowded here, and seeing you with a pregnant woman like me could easily

lead to misunderstandings and gossip. I can handle it myself. Go hang out with your friends."

Bartlett was unconcerned. "Let them think what they want to; besides, you can help me ward off other women."

"I don't want to be the center of attention!"

Bartlett laughed. "It's okay; everyone's having a blast, so they won't notice us. Come on, I'll stick with you. It will be a disaster if you twist your ankle while pregnant." Seeing Bartlett's stubbornness, Ellinor knew he wouldn't leave.

Ellinor decided not to argue with Bartlett anymore, so she moved forward on her own, with Bartlett following closely behind. Bartlett was very considerate; when it was crowded, he would support Ellinor to prevent others from bumping into her.

At that moment, on a quiet spot on the staircase, a pair of hawk-like eyes coldly watched the two of them.

Sophia handed a cocktail to the man. "Theo, are Ellinor and Bartlett close? They seem to get along pretty well." Theo squinted his eyes. "Where do you see them getting along well?"