

The Kiss 191

Chapter 191

This whole thing was not what's being plastered all over the Internet!

Sheila was super pissed. She used to be the one playing games behind people's backs, but now the tables had turned and she's on the receiving end. She felt like she couldn't defend herself.

"Mr. Lanos, things ain't like what they're saying on the internet! Please, believe me," she hurriedly explained.

Chase wasn't swayed by her words and said sternly, 'Ms. Mendoza, the issue here isn't whether I believe you, but whether the public does! If you're not down for a peaceful termination, we can take this to court. But just a heads up, if you lose, you'll be forking out a hefty compensation'

Sheila started to panic. She knew she couldn't win against the Crescent Society in court. After mulling it over, she had to back down. "Alright, I'll sign.

And just like that, Sheila signed the termination agreement.

Tracy was just looking on, feeling sorry for her daughter. She just lost a movie role, and now the endorsement from Crescent Society was gone too. She wondered how Sheila would bounce back from this.

Chase tucked the contract away satisfactorily and looked up at Elinor.

Elinor gave him a slight nod, and Chase got the message. He turned to leave.

Unable to vent her anger at the unyielding people, Sheila redirected it at Elinor.

"Elinor, I'm telling you now, you're fired! Give me back the money you drew in advance!"

Elinor said. 'Sure.'

Sheila frowned at the amount and said, "That's it? You took a considerable sum from me!"

Elinor said, "Sis, the workload I've done for you far outweighs the normal amount. It's only fair I keep half."

Sheila's eyes widened "You think you're all that, huh? Elinor, what high-level job do you think you're doing? You're just a regular assistant, I could hire three people with this money to work for me at the same time!"

"Oh? Really? With your current situation, do you think people would still want to be your assistant?"

"Elinor, even if I'm having a bit of a rough patch, it's not your place to look down on me!"

Elinor stood up and stretched, saying.

"Don't get it twisted, sis. I wasn't looking down on you. Because you're a non-entity in my eyes.

Sheila was livid "You."

Tracy, being older and wiser, came up to mediate, saying, "Sheila, let's go home and find your dad"

Ignoring them, Elinor yawned and left the ward.

While waiting for the elevator, she donated the remaining money to a charity.

She could use the money, but she wasn't desperate for it.

She just couldn't let Sheila boss her around for a few days without paying the price.

Hopefully, Sheila will learn her lesson this time and not mess with her again.

The elevator doors opened, and Collin came out, saying "Mrs. Blanchet, Mr. Blanchet asked me to pick you up."

Chapter 192

Upon seeing Collin, Elinor scowled and said. "How did he know I was in the hospital"

This morning. Theo only dropped her off at the Mendoza family's front door

Did he have someone tailing me?

Collin explained, "Because you have his phone, he can track its location."

"Oh."

Elinor looked down at the phone in her hand, feeling a bit peeved at being remotely monitored.

Collin continued, "He also knew you called an ambulance, but because of an important meeting in the company today, he couldn't leave and asked me to check on you."

"I'm fine, it's my stepmother who got a bit hurt"

"Glad to hear you're okay. Mrs Blanchet"

The way Collin kept addressing her as Mrs. Blanchet made Elinor feel uncomfortable

She remembered that before this, Collin always called her Ms. Mendoza, she wasn't sure why he suddenly changed his tune.

She didn't want to delve into the issue of a simple address, so she asked, "Where does Theo want you to take me?",

Collin replied, "Nowhere in particular, he just ordered me to get you home safely."

It seemed that last night's kidnapping incident had made Theo more cautious

"Alright, let's go then!" Elinor nodded, saving herself the hassle of hailing a cab.

She was worn out and just wanted to get home and rest!

As the car drove along. Elinor rested her cheek on her hand and stared out the window, lost in thought, her emotions a jumble.

Today, Chase told her that she wasn't Arnold's biological child, and the news was a big blow to her.

If she wasn't Arnold's daughter, then whose daughter was she?

Who was her biological father? Why did he abandon her and her mother?

And why did Arnold

take her back to the Mendoza family, raising a child with no blood ties to him? What was his motive?

Moreover, Arnold didn't really want to raise her. Not long after he brought her home, he sent her to the countryside!

All these questions formed a giant puzzle in her mind.

By the time the car reached the Blanchet family home, Elinor had fallen asleep.

Collin carefully woke her up

"We're here."

Elinor rubbed her eyes and woke up. She looked out the window to confirm they were at the Blanchets, then unbuckled her seatbelt and got out of the car.

Collin quickly followed, saying, "Wait a moment, please!"

Elinor stopped and turned around, asking sleepily, "What's up?"

Collin went around to the back of the car

and opened the trunk. "He had some stuff for me to give to you; come see if it's what you were looking for"

What stuff?

Elinor was puzzled, walked over, and saw in the trunk three beautifully wrapped paintings—the three remaining works of her mother from the Bartlett Rex gallery!

Collin explained. "These are the three paintings he bought for you; check if they're the ones you wanted"

Elinor was momentarily stunned, then realization hit her: 'Oh, yes! But how did Theo get this painting? Didn't Bartlett say he wouldn't sell it?'

Collin explained, 'Bartlett and Mr. Blanchet are old friends, and a lot of Bartlett's business relies on cooperation with the Blanchet family, so naturally he would give Mr. Blanchet some special privileges'

So that's how it was!

Elinor gently stroked the paintings, feeling deeply moved. It felt like, through these paintings, she could touch the warmth of her long lost mother....

So, when Theo said he would treat her well this morning, this was what he meant!

Chapter 193

This painting was exactly what she wanted.

"Uh, be sure to send my thanks to Mr. Blanchet for me!"

Saying this, Elinor rang the doorbell of the Blanchet family's residence, waiting for a servant to come out and help her bring in the three paintings.

Checking his phone, Collin looked up and said "Mr. Blanchet also wanted to know what you'd like to have for dinner tonight"

Elinor blinked "Huh? Is he coming home for dinner tonight?"

Collin nodded. "Seems like it"

Elinor frowned somewhat unwillingly, thinking to herself, With Marissa Blanchet not around to keep an eye on us, why did he still bother to come back?

"Whatever, I'm not fussy about food!"

"Eh, alright then.."

Following Theo's instructions, Collin watched as Elinor safely entered the Blanchet family's residence, got into the car, and left.

Meanwhile, at the Blanchet Corporation

Having just finished a meeting Theo leaned back in his chair, rubbing his tired eyes.

His secretary knocked on the door, respectfully asking. "Mr. Blanchet, Mr Howard has been waiting in the reception room for you for an hour."

Theo glanced up and said, "Let him in "

"Yes, sir!"

Shortly after, the secretary led Bryan to the entrance of the CEO's office.

Bryan walked into the office with long strides, nervously observing Theo as if seeking some clue.

"Theo, are you okay? What happened last night?"

Theo was reviewing a folder when he glanced at him upon hearing this: "You think something happened to me?"

Bryan frowned anxiously and said, "I don't know! Last night. Elinor called me using your phone and said you needed my sister's help with something. I told her Pearl was abroad and asked her what was going on, but she just hung up! Theo, what happened last night that required my sister's help?"

Recalling Elinor's actions last night, hunting for women for him, Theo asked, "And how does she know your sister?"

Bryan looked as if it were obvious: "I told her! I warned her not to have too high expectations of you and also told her that you could only be my sister's man!"

Theo frowned, looking at Bryan, sternly saying. "Stop talking nonsense in front of her."

Bryan was stubborn, "But I'm right! Theo, have you forgotten that my sister has been waiting for you? You and my sister..."

"Oh' Byran's here too! Enjoying your summer break? Come join us for some fun!"

Jonah suddenly entered, inadvertently interrupting Bryan.

Hearing about fun, Bryan immediately perked up, forgetting about whatever he was agonizing over.

He widened his eyes, curiously asking. "Where are we going to have fun?"

Jonah laughed, saying, "I haven't been to the Mountain Racecourse in ages; my horse must miss me! The weather's been great lately, it's the perfect time to stay there for a few days!"

Upon hearing this, Bryan got excited. "Horse riding! Count me in!"

Jonah smiled, then turned to Theo, who was sitting behind his desk. "Theo, care to join?"

Theo kept his eyes on his files, unwaveringly saying "You guys go ahead, I don't have the time."

Jonah was surprised "How can you not have the time? Tomorrow's the weekend, you don't have to work at the company! Oh, right, you can bring your wife along too. You guys haven't gone on a honeymoon since getting married, this could be a good opportunity to take her out and have some fun!"

Chapter 194

Theo was squinting lazily, he never thought there would be a so called honeymoon phase in his marriage with Elinor

Bryan grumbled dissatisfied. "Jonah, you're overthinking it! Theo and Elinor won't last long, they don't need a honeymoon, Theo will eventually go on a honeymoon with my sister!"

"You don't get it Jonah looked at Theo sitting in the office chair and said, "Theo, what do you think? Wanna go?"

Theo flipped a page of the document and said, "She's tired today, we won't go. Tomorrow morning. I'll take her to meet up with you guys."

Jonah was delighted "It's settled then! Then he turned to leave

Seeing Bryan was still there, Jonah stopped and patted him on the shoulder, asking, "What are you still doing here? Get going"

Bryan was willing to follow, but his face was a bit annoyed. He hesitated for a moment, then requested, "Jonah, can you make a call to my brother for me? I'm afraid he won't let me go"

Jonah chuckled. "Why are you still so scared of your brother?"

Bryan was helpless "You know what kind of person he is! He's even stricter than my dad

"Fine, I'll call him later!"

"Awesome!"

In the evening, at the Blanchet family residence.

Elinor had slept all afternoon after she got back, woke up hungry, and headed to the kitchen to make something.

There were quite a few servants in the Blanchet family, but except for Devin, who was somewhat respectful towards Elinor, most of them were from Veronica Blanchet's side and held hostility towards her.

Moreover, everyone felt that Mr. Blanchet didn't care much about the woman he hastily married and rarely came home after the marriage.

So, when Marissa Blanchet left, the servants at home paid even less attention to Elinor. If Mr. Blanchet didn't come home, naturally, no one would specifically prepare dinner for her

Elinor didn't mind all these, she never considered herself part of the Blanchet family nor cared about the attitudes of the Blanchet family's servants.

She had been accustomed to taking care of herself since she was young and was happy to make food according to her own taste when she was hungry

When Theo got back, he saw her alone in the kitchen cooking with not a single servant around, and Devin wasn't there either.

He suddenly felt upset, walked to the kitchen door, and asked her, "What are you doing?"

Elinor turned around and said, "Theo, you're back! I'm cooking; do you want some?"

She was wearing a plain-colored apron with the strap tied into a bow at the back, tied very tightly, making her small waist look even slimmer.

Theo's throat felt a bit dry. He squinted at the dishes Elinor had already prepared, then nodded and said lightly, I can give it a try"

Elinor had thought that he would refuse disdainfully, but hearing him say he could try, she chuckled secretly and said, "Then you can wait in the dining room for a while." Theo didn't say anything he put down the things in his hand, took off his suit jacket, and casually threw it on the couch, then returned to the kitchen.

His expression was indifferent, he casually rolled up his shirt sleeves and asked her nonchalantly, "Need help?"

Elinor looked up and blinked, a bit surprised that this man who lived in luxury would offer to help. She thought for a moment, then said, 'Um You can get two eggs and beat them into liquid for me."

Theo responded, then asked, "Where are the eggs?"

Elinor chuckled lightly. "Theo, this is your house, right? How could you ask me where things are in your own house?"

Theo frowned "Do you think I would be so bored as to check where everything is in the kitchen?"

Elinor laughed awkwardly "The eggs are in the first drawer under the fridge"

Theo's face was serious as he turned to grab some eggs from the fridge

Chapter 195

In the kitchen, the two of them were quietly getting on with their tasks, no longer speaking.

As Theo beat the eggs, his gaze was fixed on the woman beside him, who was diligently at work, never moving away

Dinner was ready quickly, and Elinor said to Theo. "You go ahead and take the food to the table, I'll quickly pop to the loo and then join you!"

Theo picked up the dishes and left the kitchen.

Just then, Devin entered from outside, shocked to see Theo actually doing such chores himself. He quickly glanced around, noticing there was no housemaid in sight!

Those irresponsible slackers had probably gone off to laze around somewhere while he was away!

"Mr. Blanchet, when did you get back? Hand those over to me, you shouldn't be doing this kind of stuff!"

Theo glanced at Devin, didn't hand him anything, went to the table to put down the dishes, sat down, and said nonchalantly.

"You think I can't do this stuff, but the mistress of this house can?"

Devin was taken aback, quickly grasping his meaning, and awkwardly explained:

"I'm sorry, Mr. Blanchet, my bad I just went out to water the garden, didn't know Mrs. Blanchet woke up and wanted dinner. The maids are a bit unhappy with Mrs. Blanchet because of the whole incident with Ms Blanchet, so"

With a quiet demeanor, Theo slowly straightened his shirt cuffs and said, 'If they're unhappy, fire them all.'

Theo's tone was calm, but there was an undeniable authority that was quite intimidating

Devin didn't dare to defend the maids. He could tell Mr. Blanchet was genuinely furious, not just bluffing

Elinor returned from the bathroom and, noticing Devin, politely asked, "Devin, would you like to join us for dinner?"

Devin was surprised 'Mrs. Blanchet, you're too kind, I'm not hungry! Uh, I still have some stuff to do; you guys enjoy it.'

With that, Devin left to scold the slacking servants.

Elinor sat down and noticed a box of takeaway barbecue on the table, her eyes lighting up!

It was her favorite barbecue!

She asked in surprise, "Did you get this barbecue?"

Theo was expressionless 'Collin picked it up on his way'

Elinor believed him and reached for a piece to eat!

Theo said. "Is this for you?"

Elinor shot him a glare and said, "You're eating my cooking; I'm eating your barbecue, it's a fair trade!"

Theo snorted chuckled and tasted the food she made it was pretty good.

"Did you go to the hospital today?" Theo suddenly asked.

Elinor nodded while munching on her meat. "Yep, my stepmother was injured, Collin probably told you, right?"

Theo asked again. "Did you get yourself checked out while you were there?"

Elinor frowned in confusion "Why would I check myself? I'm fine!"

Theo said seriously, "Because of what happened last night, you should check if I didn't control myself well and hurt you"

Elinor's face instantly turned red, almost choking on her meat.

Chapter 196

Thea handed her a tissue, his tone full of helplessness and seriousness, reminding her, "Slow down, nobody's going to snatch your food

Elinor struggled to swallow the food in her mouth, took the tissue and wiped her mouth, then awkwardly turned her face away from him and said, "Mr. Blanchet! Please stop bringing up last night!"

"Why?" Theo's eyes sparkled with a hint of sarcastic humor Is Ms. Mendoza feeling embarrassed?"

Elinor said unhappily. I'm not embarrassed, I just don't want to remember!"

Don't want to remember?

Theo stared at her for two seconds, smiled, and said, "Ms. Mendoza, your selfless contribution last night was a good deed, you should cherish the memory""

Hearing his sarcastic words, Elinor's cheeks immediately turned red, blinking in embarrassment...

He was clearly messing with her on purpose!

If it wasn't for saving him, she wouldn't have done that last night.

Theo looked at her blushing face.

"

He smiled, stopped teasing her, and asked seriously: "Any plans for tomorrow? If not, come with me to the Mountain Racecourse."

With the change of topic, Elinor finally dared to look at him and asked doubtfully, "Mountain Racecourse ? Do I have to go?"

Theo looked at her reluctant face and said, "Do you have anything else to do tomorrow?"

Elinor shook her head and said, "No, but I don't want to go out."

Theo said seriously. "If you have nothing else to do, just come with me. You're just going to sleep if you stay at home."

Clearly, he was not asking for her opinion, he was just informing her!

Oh well, since they're in this together, they better cooperate!

Elinor sighed. "Mr. Blanchet, do I have to play along with you again tomorrow?"

Theo's eyes narrowed coldly. "At this point, is that all you can think about acting?"

Elinor laughed "Then what else can you have me do? Are you asking me out on a real date?"

A date?

Theo didn't care, picked up the cup on the table, and calmly took a sip of water. "Real or fake, we've been through it, haven't we?"

Elinor was choked by his words again: "Mr. Blanchet, you...you're bringing that up again!"

Her cheeks, which had just returned to normal, were now as red as a monkey's butt at his words.

Seeing her cheeks turn red with embarrassment, Theo frowned and gently patted her back, afraid she might really choke on her food.

"Let's not talk about it anymore. Get up early tomorrow, I'll take you out"

He's taking her out? Elinor couldn't believe what she was hearing, wondering if she had misheard....

His mood really changed like the wind!

"Okay, I got it!"

After saying that, she lowered her head and focused on her meal, not talking to him anymore!

Otherwise, after a few words, the topic would go back to last night's events.

After finishing her meal, Elinor went back to her room.

Theo went to his study to deal with some work, and by the time he finished, it was already late at night.

He was about to head to his room for some rest when he found the bedroom door locked.

Elinor had actually locked him out!

Theo felt helpless, he could have summoned someone to get the key and open the door, but then he thought, Never mind.

Chapter 197

She should be snoozing by now, no need to bother her

Theo returned to his study, his face as blank as a sheet, to crash for the night.

First thing next morning.

Elinor groggily got up, freshened up a bit, tidied herself up casually, and then followed Theo downstairs to hop in the car

In the car, she quickly dozed off on the seat

It's not like there was anything to talk about with him anyway!

After a car ride of over two hours, they arrived at the Mountain Racecourse.

The moment Elinor got out of the car, a figure swiftly pounced over...

"Elinor"

Belinda Wesley gave her a warm embrace, waking Elinor up quite a bit!

*"Elinor, it's been forever since I last saw you, I missed you so much!**

Elinor gave a helpless smile and said, "Yeah, it's been ages!"

Belinda clung onto Elinor's neck, as if she wanted to hang her entire self on her.

Seeing Belinda's reckless behavior, Theo sternly said, "Back off; don't crush her"

Belinda, being scared of Theo, reluctantly let go, frowning. "Are you calling me fat?"

Theo gave her a glance, disregarding her words, and questioned, "How come you're here? Who are you with?"

Belinda replied, 'Jonah told me he was holidaying here, and since my horse is also here, I thought I'd join in the fun!"

Theo frowned "Does your mom know?"

Belinda seemed a bit guilty, she turned her face towards Elinor and asked with concern, "You look a bit out of it, didn't sleep well?"

Elinor nodded. "I woke up too early and didn't get enough sleep."

Belinda grumbled.

"Theo's such a pain, he knew you had to wake up early for this today, but he didn't let you get a good night's sleep!"

Theo and Elinor were both speechless. What the hell was Belinda imagining?

"Elinor, let's go! We'll ride the horses; it'll wake you up!"

Belinda pulled Elinor and dashed towards the horse track.

Theo sauntered behind them

Inside the racecourse.

In the open rest area, under the sunshade,

Haillie Knotts Bryan, Jonah, Kemp Larios, and Bartlett, all dressed in riding gear, sat there chit-chatting.

Belinda ran over, waving and shouting excitedly. "They're here, they're here! Theo and Elinor are here!"

Hearing the noise, Jonah and the gang looked over to see Belinda leading Elinor over.

And Theo was following not far behind them.

Barlett gave a smile to Elinor

Haillie, decked out in fancy riding gear, had her perfectly styled wavy hair tied up in a high ponytail to avoid it getting messed up while riding.

Her eyes scanned Elinor from top to toe, seeing her in plain clothes. A sense of superiority and pity flashed in her eyes, and she thought Theo wasn't treating Elinor well, otherwise, why would she be dressed so simply?

Bryan, on the other hand, frowned when he saw Elinor, as if pondering something.

Jonah stood up, smiling and said, "Theo, you guys didn't come last night, you missed out on the big feast Bryan treated us to!"

Theo casually stood next to Elinor and said, "No problem, he can treat us again today"

Chapter 198

Jonah looked at Bryan with a grin and said, "Bryan, did you catch that? Theo wants another treat from you!"

Byran's gaze was focused on Elinor. Startled out of his reverie by Jonah, he stammered. "Uh, Theo, my bank card has been frozen by my bro. I blew my secret stash on the feast yesterday. I'm broke today, I can't host another dinner."

Theo, expressionless, gave a slight nod, saying "No worries, she's picking up the tab today"

Who? Elinor realized he meant her and instantly frowned, looking unhappy.

Why should she treat these people? She barely knew them!

Plus, she was just a plus one that Theo brought along, right?

All eyes fell on today's host, Elinor...

"I'm not," Elinor began to refuse, but before she could finish, Theo's hand landed on her shoulder, pulling her closer.

Leaning in, he whispered into her ear, "Ms. Mendoza, my phone's with you. You know the payment passcode. You play hostess, I'll foot the bill."

Hearing this, Elinor's frown turned into a smile. She cheerily announced to the group, "No problem, dinner's on me tonight!"

Jonah chuckled with interest. "If it's on you, then we won't hold back!"

Elinor grinned and said. "Don't hold back! Order whatever you fancy!"

Jonah clapped his hands excitedly and said, "You heard her, guys! Eat whatever you want tonight!"

Theo watched Elinor noticing the switch in her attitude once she heard it was his money.

Damn, she's being adorable for no reason again!

"Ms. Mendoza, aren't you being a little too generous? Allowing them to splurge with my money?"

Elinor shot him a glare, mumbling. "Theo, you're the one who offered to host. Not me! Being a host means being generous. If you're going to be stingy, better not to host at

all!

Theo snorted. "If Ms. Mendoza is so generous, why not host with your own money?"

Elinor retorted sarcastically.

"My money should be spent on things that matter to me, not on feeding strangers! Plus, since you're claiming me, you want me to pay you too?" As soon as the words left her mouth, Elinor's face turned red.

Damn, she'd let that slip.

Embarrassed, she quickly turned away.

After a brief pause, Theo smiled and gently ruffled her hair. "Hmm, Ms. Mendoza makes a good point. Save your money for what you want, and use mine however you please Is that okay?"

Seeing that Theo didn't tease her, Elinor breathed a sigh of relief. She beamed, "Theo, don't worry! I won't be shy about spending!"

A gentle smile played on Theo's lips as he watched her, his gaze softening

Not too far away, Haillie watched Theo and Elinor's interaction with displeasure. She found their coziness irritating.

She'd never seen Theo so attentive to a woman, listening so patiently as if making concessions.

This wasn't the Theo she knew!

After a moment of thought, Haillie put on a friendly smile and walked over, saying, "Elinor, I didn't notice you were here too. Is this your first time riding?"

Elinor turned to look at Haillie; her feelings towards this woman were tainted because of the watch incident.

"No, I've ridden a few times before."

"Really? Haillie said, forcing a smile but thinking that Elinor was just putting on a brave face. How could a girl with her background have had the chance to ride horses?

"Well, that's even better. We can have a little race later"

Chapter 199

Belinda couldn't wait and grabbed Elinor, saying, "Let's go get you some horse riding gear!"

"Horse-riding gear? Elinor raised an eyebrow and said, 'I don't have any.'"

Belinda was taken aback. "You didn't bring any? Well, I brought two sets; you can wear mine, but I didn't bring any extra boots!"

Haillie chimed in with a friendly smile. I just so happen to have an extra pair of boots, I'm just not sure if they'll fit you, Elinor? With that, she compared her foot size with Elinor's "My feet are a bit larger, but you can give my boots a try"

Elinor nodded "Alright, thank you"

Haillie smiled warmly and said, "We're all friends here; no need for formalities!"

And with that, the three girls headed for the changing room.

In the changing room.

Elinor tried on the horse-riding gear Belinda gave her

The outfit was red and tight-fitting, revealing the beautiful curves of her body.

She tied her hair up into a small bun.

Her petite and round face was delicate, and she looked very innocent, yet the red outfit highlighted her feminine charm.

Belinda was stunned. "You look absolutely stunning in this outfit!"

Elinor didn't show any expression. Your outfit looks good, not mine"

Belinda insisted, "Trust me, it's you who make this outfit look good! If I were a guy, I'd definitely chase after you; I wouldn't let anyone else have a chance!"

Elinor smiled slightly.

"Elinor, here, try these boots on, they're new, I haven't worn them."

Haillie walked over with a pair of boots.

As Elinor turned her head to hear her voice, Haillie was stunned.

Elinor, in her horse-riding gear and with a bun, looked both beautiful and brave. She was so breathtakingly beautiful that even Haillie felt a bit inferior.

Elinor tried on Haillie's boots, but they were too large and would fall off when she walked.

She took them off and handed them back to Haillie, saying, "Thanks for the thought, but they don't fit; I'll just wear my own sneakers!"

Haillie could only laugh helplessly, saying, "Well, then that's the best we can do."

After changing into the horse-riding gear, Elinor and Belinda headed out first. Haillie said she needed to use the restroom and told them not to wait.

Outside

Theo and Jonah were chatting under a sunshade.

Jonah was the first to see Elinor come out of the changing room; he was taken aback, then nudged Theo with his elbow and nodded slightly, indicating him to look....

Theo glanced over casually, and it was as if an arrow had hit his heart!

Elinor, in her red outfit, seemed to glow

He always knew she was beautiful, but seeing her in the horse-riding gear with her hair tied up, he was still taken aback.

Now, Elinor was not the innocent, childish girl in casual clothes but a mature and charming woman,

In short, she was absolutely beautiful.

However, just then, a sharp scream came from the changing room.

Chapter 200

A sudden shriek had everyone jumping out of their skins!

"What just happened?"

"What's going on in there?"

"That sounds like Haillie"

Elinor and Belinda heard it too. They exchanged a startled look and shook their heads, indicating they had no idea what was going on.

They had just come out of there, and Haillie seemed perfectly fine when they left..

Then they all rushed into the changing room together.

Inside, Haillie sat alone on a bench, pale as a ghost, with a pained expression on her face and tiny beads of sweat on her forehead.

Seeing this, Bryan stepped forward and asked, "What's up with you?"

Jonah also moved closer, softly asking. "What happened?"

Haillie looked up at them, trembling as she said. "My my foot..."

What was wrong with her foot?

Everyone's attention was drawn to Haillie's feet. One foot was still in a shoe; the other was bare, stretched out as if enduring some severe pain!

"My foot was sweating, so I decided to change shoes before going out again. But when I was changing, something in the shoe pricked the sole of my foot, and it hurts like hell."

Haillie explained, struggling to keep the pain at bay

Hearing this, Bryan immediately knelt down to examine her foot. "There's definitely something lodged in her foot! It looks like a nail! What do we do now?"

Jonah, dropping his usual casual tone, said seriously. "Don't worry, there's an emergency doctor at the stable. I'll get someone to fetch him."

Bryan comforted her, saying. "Hang in there, the stable doctor will be here soon to treat your wound"

Haillie nodded, tears streaming down her face.

Nearby, Belinda found something strange. She tugged at Elinor's hand and whispered in her ear, "Isn't that the boot you just tried on? How is there a nail in it?"

Elinor, looking at Haillie, squinted her eyes but said nothing.

The stable doctor arrived quickly and checked Haillie's foot.

Then he pulled out a pair of tweezers from his medical kit, quickly removed the nail lodged in Haillie's foot, disinfected the wound, and dressed it.

Throughout the process, Haillie was in tears, gripping Bryan's arm tightly

After everything was done, the doctor advised, "It's all right now. The nail has been removed. Make sure not to get it wet for a few days to prevent infection."

Haillie, who looked like she had gone through torment, weakly said to Bryan, "Bryan, it still hurts a lot. Could you ask the doctor for some painkillers?"

Looking at Haillie's pained face, Bryan felt both sympathy and anger. He frowned at the doctor and said, "What the hell is going on here? How can there be dangerous things like nails in the changing room?"

The doctor, with an innocent look on his face, explained, "Eh, Mr. Howard, the earring isn't ours. What hurt Haillie was a lady's earring, and we don't have any female staff in the stable, so there's no way it could be ours."

With that, the stable doctor presented the earring he had just removed to prove the stable's innocence.

It was indeed an earring, and it even had a diamond on it!