

The Kiss 721

Chapter 721

Veronica stood with her hands on her hips, “Hey! Ellinor, get dressed and get moving!

“Why?” Ellinor raised an eyebrow, gave Veronica a nonchalant look, then continued to look at her phone.

She wasn’t surprised when Veronica barged in. She had heard Veronica having a loud conversation with Devin at the door.

“Why? You’re asking me why? Since you’re in my house, you should follow the Blanchet family rules. We Blanchets don’t do lie ins! You think it’s like your house, where you can just laze around!”

Ellinor gave a slight chuckle, “I’m your brother’s wife in the Blanchet household, not yours. If your brother doesn’t mind, why should you?”

Veronica was visibly upset. “You really think you’re part of the Blanchet family? Don’t think I don’t know, my brother is not married to you yet! Strictly speaking, you’re not a Blanchet. But I am, so you listen to me!

Ellinor laughed and nodded, “Uh-huh, I’m listening. What do you want me to do?”

Veronica crossed her arms, “I want you to get up and work now. Stop freeloading off the Blanchet family!”

Ellinor asked curiously. “Work? What kind of work?”

Veronica said, “Cleaning, cooking, there’s work everywhere. Can’t you see, you lazy bum?”

Ellinor was nonchalant. Those tasks seem to be done by professionals; I don’t need to do them, do I?”

Veronica frowned, “We do have professional maids to clean, but since you’re here, you should help. What’s my brother brought you here for? Less talk, more work you’re mopping all the floors today!”

Ellinor’s phone was pointed at Veronica, and she languidly watched the phone screen, “Theo, you’ve seen all this, right? Your family doesn’t welcome me; your sister is more wicked than a TV villain!”

“Give her the phone”

After hearing Theo’s stern voice from Ellinor’s phone, Veronica’s arrogance changed instantly. She finally realized that Ellinor wasn’t just looking at her phone. She was calling Theo!

This was outrageous!

Ellinor was too cunning!

Ellinor was still lounging at the head of the bed. She smiled and beckoned Veronica, “Come on, your brother wants you to take the call.”

Veronica broke out in a cold sweat, and even her back got wet. She was so pissed that her face was pale, but she dared not refuse her brother’s call.

She walked to the bed and took Ellinor's phone. She saw the video call on the screen and saw that Theo was still in his car, not at the office yet.

THEO...

"Pack your things; I'll have someone take you to your mother's later."

There was no expression on Theo's face, and his tone was cold. Veronica knew she was in deep trouble.

They were half-siblings, but her mother had never been recognized by the Blanchet family and was unable to enter the Blanchet villa.

So far, she had been considered an unofficial family member at best.

Because she was of Blanchet blood and a girl, she was allowed by Theo to be brought up in the Blanchet villa.

Now Theo wanted to send her back to her mother. Was this not abandonment?

"Theo, I won't leave!"

"Then apologize to her!"

Chapter 722

Veronica watched as Ellinor lazily sat up in bed, yawning. She found it hard to apologize to this country bumpkin she genuinely looked down upon. Theo,..."

In the video, Theo's face was stern "If you don't apologize, pack up your stuff immediately!"

Although Veronica was reluctant to apologize, she was still afraid of Theo. She quickly apologized and bowed her head to Ellinor, who was still in bed

"Ellinor, I'm sorry... What I said was wrong. I won't talk to you like that again... Please forgive me; don't let my brother kick me out."

Ellinor didn't give a clear response. Instead, she lazily stretched out her hand. "Give me my phone back. You can go now"

You can go now?!

Who was Ellinor talking to? What did she take her for?

Veronica almost blew up with rage at Ellinor's dismissive attitude, but she had no choice but to calm herself. Theo was still watching her through the video call.

She didn't dare argue with Ellinor anymore. She obediently returned the phone to Ellinor and then helplessly turned around and left.

Ellinor took the phone, and only after Veronica left did she look at the perfect face of the man on the screen and lazily said, "Theo, your sister Veronica is nothing like you

The coldness on his face immediately disappeared. "Alright, don't be angry. I'll teach her a lesson when I get back"

"I'm not angry, just a bit annoyed!" Ellinor yawned, then casually asked, "Theo, when are you coming back?"

After saying this, she immediately realized that it was inappropriate. She blinked awkwardly. "Um..."

Theo also paused for a moment, then smiled, "When do you want me to come back? I can come back right now"

Ellinor cleared her throat in embarrassment, "No need, I was just asking! Go to work, I'm going back to sleep!"

After that, she quickly hung up the video call and threw the phone away.

Ellinor covered her face with her hands and rolled on the bed. "Ah! So awkward!"

Why did she ask when Theo was coming back?

Theo had just left not long ago, so asking that made it seem like she missed him.

Ellinor, where was your dignity?

It had only been ten minutes since he left, and she sort of missed him. Now what?

Ellinor hugged the quilt they both used last night, buried her face in it, and took a deep breath, trying to catch his fresh scent.

Unconsciously, she fell asleep.

Veronica came out of the room with an embarrassed face, just in time to meet Devin, who was about to open the door with the keys.

Once Veronica came out, Devin sighed in relief, "Ms. Blanchet, you finally came out! Ellinor isn't mad, is she?"

Chapter 723

Veronica was frowning and looked a tad upset. "Devin, all you care about is whether Ellinor is mad. Why don't you ask if I'm pissed off too?!"

Devin fell silent.

Feeling neglected, Veronica was annoyed with both Devin and the servants around them. "Huh! This house is turning into the Mendoza family circus, with everyone siding with that outsider!"

Devin looked helpless, he hadn't favored anyone. It was Ms. Blanchet's fault for barging into Ellinor's room in the first place.

The servants, too, felt they hadn't done anything wrong. They weren't favoring Ellinor; they just thought Ms. Blanchet had been too rash.

Veronica fumed more and more as she stormed back to her room, so she called Patricia.

The call quickly connected, and Patricia's familiar and gentle voice echoed. "What's up, Veronica?"

Veronica didn't hide her anger. "Patricia, do you know?! Ellinor is acting all high and mighty! She's parading around the Blanchet villa like she's the lady of the house!"

On the other side, Patricia paused for a moment before responding. "Veronica, don't panic; tell me slowly, what happened? Did Ellinor do something outrageous?"

Veronica thought for a moment, trying to stay calm. "She didn't do anything specific; she just unfairly has my brother wrapped around her little finger. Now everyone at home treats her like the lady of the house, they don't even look at me! She's even using my brother's support to treat me like a maid. I'm so mad!"

Pretending to sympathize, Patricia said, "What? She treats you like a maid? Veronica, I too think Ellinor's attitude is a bit over the top; isn't Theo at home? Doesn't he care?"

Veronica replied. "My brother has already gone to the office, and that woman, Ellinor, is comfortably sleeping in my brother's bedroom! Even if my brother was home, he would only help her, not me!"

(Patricia, you don't understand. My brother is now completely under Ellinor's charm, he listens to everything she says. I really don't know what Ellinor did to my

brother!

Patricia, why don't you control my brother? Are you planning to just give my brother to Ellinor? I really don't want her to be my brother's wife!"

Patricia clenched her fist in jealousy after hearing Veronica say Ellinor was sleeping in Theo's bedroom, but her tone remained gentle. "Veronica, regardless of my relationship with your brother, we can't let Ellinor disrespect you like this. I'll come over to your house and have a chat with Ellinor!"

Veronica felt touched. "Patricia, you're really the best! Huh? Patricia, is there a child crying over there?"

Patricia sounded a little uncomfortable, "Uh... It's Baber, he's not feeling well and is a bit fussy. Veronica, I have to hang up now. I'll come over to your place later"

Veronica responded. "Okay, cool! Patricia, I'll be waiting for you."

After hanging up with Veronica, Patricia looked irritably at Baber, whose head was bandaged and was crying in the nanny's arms.

"Alright, Baber, stop crying! It's breaking my heart! What do you want to eat? I'll have someone go buy it for you, okay?"

Patricia put on an overly concerned face, trying to soothe Baber. Otherwise, it would look weird if Baber kept resisting her.

However, every time she approached Baber, his crying intensified.

The nanny was worried about Baber's head wound, fearing that his intense crying would lead to a lack of oxygen. She suggested, "Ms. Howard, maybe you shouldn't get too close to Baber for now. Wait until his wound heals a bit, then you can hold him."

Patricia found the child annoying to begin with, and his intense crying was even more irritating. She waved her hand, "Alright, take good care of him. I have to go out for a bit"

The nanny breathed a sigh of relief and said, "Okay, Ms. Howard, don't worry. I'll take good care of Baber."

Patricia glanced at the still crying Baber, thinking he was becoming more and more annoying. She had chosen him just because he was cute, but she didn't expect him to be such a handful. Too bad he couldn't be returned like a defective product. What a headache!

Chapter 724

After Patricia left, the nanny gently patted Baber in her arms and comforted, "It's okay now, Ms. Howard is gone. Baber, you don't have to be scared."

Baber turned his head to confirm that Patricia was really gone, and his crying gradually subsided.

The nanny sighed. She had long noticed that Ms. Howard didn't truly love this adopted child. She only showed concern for Baber in front of others, but in private, she was cold and impatient

Poor Baber was so unlucky. He became an orphan at such a young age. He was lucky enough to be adopted by a wealthy family, but then he got a mother who just wanted to use him.

Ah, this kid was probably not going to have an easy life.

The Blanchet villa.

Ellinor's nap was interrupted by a phone call.

She lazily lay in the quilt, fumbling for her phone and putting it to her ear to answer.

"Hello?"

A calm male voice came from the other end of the line, "Ms. Mendoza, good morning"

Ellinor was still half asleep. She didn't recognize the voice and asked, "Who is this?"

"Ms. Mendoza, it's Quinton."

Ellinor became a bit more awake, "Hmm, what's up?"

Quinton detected that Ellinor sounded like she had just woken up. He was a bit uneasy and carefully said, "Ms. Mendoza, did I interrupt your rest?"

Whether you disturbed me or not, you've called already. Just say what you need to!"

"I did interrupt you, please forgive me. The thing is, Mr. Howard would like to meet with you privately. He wants to apologize for the misunderstanding last night."

Ellinor was a bit annoyed after being disrupted from her sleep for this, "There's no need for that, I'm hanging up."

"Ms. Mendoza, Mr. Howard..."

Before Quinton could finish, Ellinor hung up and was ready to continue her sleep.

At that moment, someone knocked on the door of her room.

"Ellinor, it's past ten o'clock. Mr. Blanchet instructed me to wake you up for breakfast at this time."

It was Devin's respectful voice outside

Ellinor rolled over, it seemed her desire to sleep in was not going to be fulfilled today.

She fixed her hair a bit, then got up to wash up.

Devin showed Ellinor a respectful smile after seeing her open the door and come out.

"Ellinor, your breakfast is ready. Mr. Blanchet has specially hired a nutritionist to prepare it for you. If there's anything specific you want for lunch, you can tell me now and I'll prepare it in advance."

As Ellinor made her way downstairs, she responded, "I'm not picky; anything will do."

"Alright, got it."

Chapter 725

Devin followed diligently, only stepping up to guide her to her meal when they walked into the dining room. "Ellinor, this is your breakfast... What?"

Before he could finish, Devin was gobsmacked!

He saw two women having a meal at the restaurant table, and what they were eating was the breakfast that the nutritionist had carefully prepared for Ellinor. Devin frowned, "Ms Blanchet, didn't you already have breakfast? Why did you eat Ellinor's breakfast?"

Veronica sat there, eating and talking

"This breakfast is hers? I thought it was for my friend! My friend happened to come over, so I let her eat first!"

Veronica then passed the bacon on her plate to her friend, Patricia, who was sitting next to her, "Here, Patricia, you don't often come to our house, eat more!"

As Veronica chatted with Patricia, she rolled her eyes at Ellinor.

Patricia ate without politeness, as if showing off her treatment at Veronica's house to Ellinor.

And Ellinor just looked at them calmly with a slight smile on her lips.

Patricia took a sip of milk, then stood up somewhat embarrassed, "Oh! Was this Ellinor's breakfast? I'm sorry, we didn't know! Veronica just asked me if I had breakfast, and I happened to be a bit hungry, so I sat down with her and ate some! Ellinor, we didn't mean to eat your breakfast, you won't be mad, right?"

Ellinor slightly raised her eyebrow and smiled. "It's okay, you're the guest and you eat first."

This casual 'you're the quest' instantly froze Patricia's smile.

Was Ellinor implying that she was now the mistress of the Blanchet family?

Veronica was right; Ellinor had just returned to the Blanchet family for one day, and she already had the aura of the mistress!

She's just showing off how she relied on Theol

After seeing the breakfast carefully prepared for Ellinor being eaten by others, Devin felt helpless and sighed, "Um... Ellinor, please sit down for a while, I will have the kitchen make another one for you right away!"

Ellinor glanced at the exquisite food on the table, which looked time-consuming, making another one would definitely be troublesome.

Moreover, seeing Patricia here made her feel a bit nauseated, and she had no interest in dining with her.

So Ellinor waved her hand, "No need, Devin, I can just order something from outside."

Devin seemed very worried, "Ellinor, how could you order food from outside? It's not clean; just wait a little longer and I will try to have the kitchen make your

breakfast faster."

Ellinor shook her head, "Devin, it's really not necessary, just have them focus on preparing lunch. I'll handle breakfast. Even if you have them make it again, I won't eat it!"

Devin had no choice but to nod, "Alright then, I'll have them prepare more of your favorite dishes for lunch."

Ellinor responded, "Okay."

Devin sighed and turned to go to the kitchen.

As soon as Devin left, Veronica scoffed, "Patricia, did you hear that? She said she was going to order food from outside! This is hilarious! What sort of respectable rich lady eats food from outside?"

Patricia smiled slightly, comfortably enjoying Ellinor's breakfast, not refuting Veronica's mockery of Ellinor.

Veronica kept scoffing, "Patricia, you must have never ordered food from outside either! For families like ours, we absolutely don't eat those cheap and mediocre foods from outside.

Even if we occasionally order food from outside, it is always freshly made by a hired professional chef, ensuring the freshness of the ingredients and the best taste. Some people may have never tasted high-end food in their lives, and are okay with eating any low-end food!"

When Veronica said this, Ellinor had already plonked herself on the living room couch, turning a blind eye to Veronica's sarcastic remarks and just focusing on ordering takeout on her phone.

Veronica felt like she was punching cotton. Nothing she said could get to Ellinor, and it was super frustrating for her.

She raised her voice and continued, "You're taking ages just to order some grub? With the money in some people's hands, they probably can only afford the cheapest dish!"

Patricia was about to burst into laughter, but she still pretended to be sympathetic, "Veronica, don't be like this. We should respect other people's lifestyles"

Veronica snorted as she rolled her eyes, "But I'm just stating the facts! She's just a country bumpkin, she's not even in the same league as us! Even if she can attract my brother now, their values are not aligned, and they won't last! She's really clueless! How could she still live in our house?"

Ellinor couldn't care less about Veronica's sarcasm. She had already placed her order and paid. At the same time, Theo also received a payment notification.

Last night, Theo gave her all his passwords and several private bank cards, indicating his intention to spend the rest of his life with her

Although Ellinor was not short of money, it felt pretty good to occasionally use her boyfriend's money.

While Veronica was still spouting off, Ellinor acted as if she hadn't heard a thing. She lounged on the couch, turned on the TV, and waited for her food.

Suddenly, a glass of milk was held in front of her.

Ellinor looked up and saw Patricia offering it.

Patricia was smiling gently and innocently. "Ellinor, your food might take a while, right? Have some milk first, don't starve yourself!"

Ellinor looked at the glass of milk with a clear lipstick mark on it. It was obviously Patricia's leftover.

Offering someone else your leftover milk? Patricia sure was an interesting character.

'Ellinor didn't get angry, she gently pushed away Patricia's milk, flashed her a smile, and said, "Thanks for the offer, but I'm not that hungry yet. You can have the milk

Disappointed, Patricia sat next to her and cheekily asked, "Ellinor, why won't you drink it? Is it because I drank from it? I thought you wouldn't mind, considering you accepted my ex."

With a raised eyebrow, Ellinor glanced at her, "Your ex?"

Patricia laughed heartily, "Yeah, isn't Theo my ex? You accepted him, but when it comes to milk, you suddenly mind?"

Ellinor looked at Patricia and asked, "Did he ever touch you?"

Patricia nodded. "Of course. Do you think Theo never had a girlfriend before you? That's impossible! How could a guy like Theo, with no shortage of female admirers, possibly be single till his thirties?"

Ellinor stared at Patricia seriously, and went silent for a while, making Patricia think that she believed her and was mad.

Then, Ellinor suddenly burst into laughter as if she had heard a joke, "Ms. Howard, you tried to make me believe that you had a child with Theo, now you want me to believe you guys were intimate? You think I'd believe you?"

Patricia's face stiffened for a moment, then she also started laughing sarcastically, "Even if he hadn't been with me, do you think a vibrant man like Theo could've only dated you?"

Ellinor smiled lightly, 'I confirmed it in my own way; he indeed only had me.'

Patricia frowned. "You confirmed? How did you confirm? I know how women can confirm, but how can men? Don't fool yourself, Ellinor!"

Ellinor chuckled softly, "How I confirmed is not something I can tell you, that's Theo's personal privacy! Anyway, I'm very sure Theo is pure and innocent!"

The confidence and determination on Ellinor's face, along with the sweetness that leaked out unintentionally, were enough to make Patricia's face turn sour in an instant

Patricia's grip on the milk glass tightened, as if she wanted to crush the glass and tear Ellinor to pieces.

Patricia still remembered how she purposely got drunk and stripped naked in front of Theo, but Theo didn't even spare her a glance, let alone touch her.

Chapter 727

With an icy tone. Theo said to her, "Put your clothes on!" Then he left her alone in the room without a second thought.

Of course, she believed that Theo wasn't the type to mess around. She knew all about his self-control and strict principles.

But why did such a disciplined man like Theo lose control when it came to Ellinor?

Why?

Suddenly, an unfamiliar number called. Thinking it was the food she ordered, Ellinor picked up the phone without any hesitation, "Hello, what's up?"

However, the person on the other end didn't say anything for a while.

Ellinor furrowed her brows in confusion, "Hello, who's this? Can't you hear me?"

"I can."

It was a man's voice

Ellinor recognized it right away. It was Balfour.

She was a bit surprised that Balfour would actually call her himself.

Glancing at Patricia, who was sitting next to her with ill intentions, she wondered if Balfour was trying to contact her because of Patricia again.

Ellinor squinted her eyes and asked, "Yeah, what do you want?"

Balfour said, "Do you have time to meet up with me today? I have something to discuss with you face-to-face."

"Not really"

Without a second thought, Ellinor declined his request and wanted to hang up. She just wanted to keep her distance from these siblings.

It wasn't that she was scared, she just didn't want to get herself into more trouble and waste her time.

"Hold on, don't hang up yet!"

Balfour guessed that she was about to hang up and stopped her in time.

Ellinor's finger paused, "If you have something to say, just say it over the phone."

There was a sigh in Balfour's voice, "I've been feeling very sorry recently. I've misunderstood you a lot... Ellinor, can I see you face-to-face? I have something important to tell you. It won't take much of your time."

When Balfour invited her over the phone, Patricia was sitting next to her, drinking a cup of milk, and glaring at Ellinor.

Ellinor thought about it, "Fine, then come to the Blanchet villa to find me."

Balfour hesitated, "It's not very convenient for me to go to the Blanchet villa, can you come out?"

"Then forget it!"

This time, Ellinor hung up the phone directly.

In the morning, Quinton called to say that Balfour wanted to meet her, and now Balfour called himself.

This was really weird.

Chapter 728

Patricia looked at Ellinor, who had just hung up the phone, and flashed her trademark 'innocent' grin.

"Ms. Mendoza, you seem pretty busy, huh? Was that a guy on the phone?"

Ellinor put her phone away, nonchalantly grabbed a throw pillow from the sofa, and replied, "Yeah, it was a dude"

Patricia had a hint of sarcasm in her innocent eyes, "Does Mr Blanchet know you're still in touch with other guys?"

Ellinor let out a yawn, "He probably has no clue"

Patricia looked a bit peeved, “Mr. Blanchet doesn’t know? That could be a problem. You’re inviting other men over when he’s not around. If word gets out, there might be some unnecessary chatter”

Ellinor turned to look at Patricia, raising an eyebrow, “Ms. Howard, are you threatening to tell him?”

Patricia feigned innocence and furrowed her brow, “No way, I’m not threatening you, just giving you a friendly heads up!”

Ellinor gave a slight smile. Threat or reminder, I couldn’t care less. If you want to spread the word, go ahead! If you want to tell Mr. Blanchet, you can call him now and let him know I’ve been inviting other men over when he’s not home. Do whatever you want!”

Patricia was a bit disgruntled by Ellinor’s nonchalant attitude, and she silently gritted her teeth.

In reality, Patricia knew that if Ellinor was so open about having men over, there was likely no foul play.

Patricia retorted coldly, “Ms. Mendoza, you’re overthinking. I’m not one for gossiping or telling tales to Mr. Blanchet.

Hah! If she wasn’t that kind of person then who was?

Who knew what schemes Patricia was cooking up?

Ellinor gave Patricia a glance and ignored her.

At that moment, a male servant walked in with a package, “Ellinor, your meal is here.”

Ellinor nodded, “Cool, just put it here.”

The servant left after placing the meal on the coffee table.

Ellinor put down her throw pillow and started to unwrap her food, “Ms. Howard, fancy a bite?”

Patricia offered a fake smile, her eyes showing her disdain for the cheap meal, “No thanks, I’m already full.”

Ellinor looked at her with a smile, her tone casual, “If you’re not eating, then please step back. I don’t like being watched while I eat.”

Patricia’s smile stiffened. “Alright...”

Veronica came over from the dining room, “Patricia, why are you still sitting with Ellinor? You should keep your distance. The cheap meals she orders are made with lousy oil. It’s just disgusting, you might catch something.”

She spoke while trying to pull Patricia away from Ellinor.

As Patricia stood up, she was still holding her glass of milk, and she didn’t forget to hand the leftovers to Ellinor before leaving.

Chapter 729

“Ellinor, watch your food; don’t choke. Let me pass you the milk!”

As she was handing over the milk to Ellinor, Patricia pretended to lose her balance. She wobbled, and the milk splashed out, spilling into Ellinor's freshly opened lunchbox.

The noodles in the box were instantly ruined by the milk.

Patricia gasped, acting surprised. "Oh dear! Ellinor, I'm so sorry, I've messed up your food. It was an accident"

Ellinor just stared at her milk-soaked noodles, not saying a word

Veronica, seeing what happened, couldn't help but feel a smug satisfaction. But she put on a concerned face, "Patricia, forget about her. Are you okay?"

Patricia shook her head with a worried expression, "I'm fine, I just feel bad about ruining her lunch."

Veronica casually responded, "No biggie, it's just a bit of milk. She doesn't even mind eating greasy junk food, so what's a bit of milk? Her lunch probably isn't as clean as our milk anyway!"

"Veronica, don't say that! It's my fault!" Patricia, inwardly pleased, feigned guilt. She said to Ellinor, "Ellinor, you're not mad at me, are you? I'm really sorry. How about I pay you double for the lunch?"

"No need." Ellinor suddenly said.

Then, she stood up with her ruined lunchbox and, without warning, dumped it right on Patricia's head.

Patricia screamed in shock, staring at the cheap noodles now dripping down her hair. She was on the verge of a breakdown!

Veronica was also taken aback. Angry, she screamed. "What the hell, Ellinor! Have you lost your mind?"

Ellinor, with an indifferent expression, just lightly dusted off her hands and gave them a small smile.

"Oops! My bad! I didn't mean to! I just clumsily dumped this on Ms. Howard's head. You're not mad at me, are you, Ms. Howard?"

Patricia took a deep breath and gritted her teeth, "You..."

Enraged, Veronica pointed out, "Ellinor, you did that on purpose! How could you be so rude? Apologize to Patricia right now!"

Ellinor yawned, sarcastically retorting. "Apologize? I didn't do it on purpose; why would I apologize?"

She could tolerate the previous incidents, but this time, Patricia deliberately ruined her lunch before she even had a bite.

Patricia was wasting food, and that was something Ellinor couldn't tolerate.

Patricia regained her composure, putting on an innocent face again, "Ellinor, I simply spilled a bit of milk on your food accidentally, and I'm willing to pay double for it, do you really need to do this to me?"

Ellinor shrugged, "Patricia, I didn't get back at you. My mistake was just as accidental as yours, and I never blamed you for your mistake; why are you blaming me -for mine?"-

"I..." Patricia was lost for words.

Chapter 730

Veronica shot Ellinor an annoyed look and said to Patricia in a disgruntled tone. "Patricia, ignore this psycho chick for now. Let's go. I'll take you to my room, where you can shower and change into some fresh clothes. We'll deal with her later"

Patricia nodded, following Veronica upstairs. Halfway up, she turned her head, glaring at Ellinor with a look of pure venom.

That look was clearly a declaration of war!

Ellinor responded with a smile, clearly not bothered by her, and turned to call over a couple of maids to clean up the mess on the floor

Devin just happened to be coming out of the kitchen. He saw what had just happened and let out a helpless sigh, asking Ellinor with concern, "Ellinor, that meal isn't edible now, and you can't starve yourself. I'll have the kitchen make you a sandwich just to tide you over, okay?"

Ellinor was indeed hungry, she nodded and said, "Alright!, keep it simple; just stick an egg in it"

Just as Devin was about to go instruct the kitchen, a servant came rushing in, "Devin, Mr. Howard is here. He said he specifically came to see Ellinor"

After hearing this, Devin looked surprised, "Mr. Howard?"

The servant nodded, "Yes, Mr. Howard."

Devin found it strange. The Howard and Blanchet families were always at odds; they usually kept their distance even when there were no clashes.

Sure, Ms. Howard was an exception. She would visit because of her deep love for Mr. Blanchet.

But it was indeed rare for Mr. Howard himself to show up, and he even said he was here to visit Ellinor?

Devin felt uneasy; he turned to Ellinor and asked, "Ellinor, Mr. Howard said he's here to see you. Do you want to meet him?"

Ellinor gave a slight nod, "Okay, let him in."

Devin signaled the servant who had informed them of Mr. Howard's arrival, instructing him to guide Mr. Howard in.

Soon, the servant led Balfour in.

Ellinor sat on one side of the dining room, looking at Balfour with a smile, "Mr. Howard, that was quick"

Balfour entered alone; his tall and upright figure was impressive.

However, his demeanor was not as calm as before, and his complicated look seemed somewhat cautious, "I was just around the corner, so I came right over when I got the call."

Ellinor nodded and smiled, "We just had a spill in the living room that's being cleaned up, so we'll chat here. I hope you don't mind, Mr. Howard?"

Balfour looked at her, his eyes full of self-blame. He shook his head, "No, it doesn't matter where we talk"

Ellinor chuckled, "I thought someone like you would mind having a conversation in a dining room that smells of food. But since you don't mind, please have a seat, Mr. Howard."

With that, she lazily lifted her hand as a gesture of politeness.

A waiter stepped forward, pulling out a dining chair for the guest opposite Ellinor.

Balfour didn't say anything, he slowly walked over and took a seat.

Before they could start their conversation, a waitress came out of the kitchen with a simple sandwich and handed it to Ellinor.