

Chapter 12 Interview

Ariana approached the bodyguard with a mix of eagerness and curiosity. "Excuse me, may I ask who that person in the wheelchair was?" she inquired with a polite tone.

The bodyguard, with a stern look, scrutinized her from head to toe before responding, "That's our CEO, Mr. Fredrick. But I'm afraid he is unavailable to meet anyone at the moment due to an injury." ①

Not wanting to be misunderstood, Ariana quickly presented the documents in her hand.

"No, I'm not here to see Mr. Fredrick. I have an interview," she explained, flashing her interview notice.

The bodyguard examined the document carefully and shook his head. "I'm sorry, ma'am, but you're on the wrong floor. The interview is on the 66th floor. This floor is exclusively for the CEO's use." ③

Ariana was taken aback and perused the interview notice carefully. To her dismay, the document showed that the interview was indeed scheduled on the 66th floor.

Ariana couldn't believe her mistake and felt a flush of embarrassment wash over her face.

She quickly apologized and hurried away from the exclusive floor, kicking herself for mistaking Theodore for the CEO of the BRD Group.

After all, Theodore was the leader of the Anderson 14:14 100% Group, and it was foolish of her to assume he had anything to do with the BRD Group. 3

Thankfully, Ariana arrived at the correct floor just in time for the interview.

The competition for the role of assistant was fierce, and the interviewers' questions were sharp and demanding. But Ariana remained poised and composed, answering each query with confidence and conviction.

Although some interviewers had reservations about her educational background, the chief interviewer in the center of the panel appeared impressed by her responses, expressing his admiration without any attempt to conceal it.

This impeccably-dressed man, with a countenance that exuded charm, not only oozed handsomeness but was also cordial and friendly toward Ariana. ①

"Ms. Edwards has left us impressed with her performance in the interview. I believe her undeniable intelligence can make up for her lack of a graduation certificate," the chief interviewer declared, his statement prompting the other interviewers to ease their attitudes toward Ariana.

Grateful for the man's kind words, Ariana gazed at him appreciatively.

But the chief interviewer's teasing tone made Ariana's cheeks flush with embarrassment as he queried, "I noticed on your resume that you are married, Ms. Edwards. Such a young bride you are, indeed." ②

Ariana, sensing the unexpected shift in the chief 100% ō

interviewer's mood, murmured, "Yes."

"You must have found your true love," he commented with a sigh, prompting another inquiry. "May I ask what your husband does?"

Ariana was stunned for a while. The man cleared his throat awkwardly and explained, "We require some information about the families of our employees. It's part of the process."

Not wanting to divulge Theodore's identity, Ariana hesitated for a moment, and then responded casually, "He is currently jobless and stays at home."

"Ha..." The chief interviewer guffawed loudly, and Ariana felt her cheeks flame up with fury. ①

Her face twisted in fury and she felt deeply insulted by the chief interviewer's ridicule of Theodore's employment status. ⁽³⁾

Her perception of the interviewer who was once charming and friendly rapidly deteriorated, plummeting to an unprecedented low. ①

"Is that funny?" Her voice now icy, Ariana challenged the man's mockery of Theodore. Despite Theodore's reputation as a difficult man, he was her spouse and she would not allow anyone to belittle him. ①

The chief interviewer cleared his throat and backtracked, realizing his faux pas. "I'm sorry for making you uncomfortable. I just think you deserve better since you're an accomplished woman yourself."

Ariana was seething with anger as she stood up, her

body language as stiff as a board. The warm politeness she had previously displayed had morphed into hostility as she grabbed her bag and glared at the chief interviewer. "It's my privacy," she snapped, her voice cold as ice. "It has nothing to do with you. Is the interview over? If you don't have anything else to ask, I'll take my leave."

Without waiting for his response, Ariana stormed toward the door of the room, determined to put the embarrassing interview behind her.

But she was soon halted in her tracks as the chief interviewer caught up with her, thrusting his business card into her hand.

"Ms. Edwards, I'm sorry for what I said," he said apologetically. "In fact, I appreciate someone as capable as you. If you need any help in the future, don't hesitate to contact me." ①

As the chief interviewer scurried away, his shoulders were still convulsing in apparent mirth.

Ariana stood there, perplexed by the man's odd behavior, clutching the business card that was handed to her. With a furrowed brow, she muttered to herself, "Adrian Perkins? Vice president of the BRD Group? What kind of people work here?"

Whispers from the surrounding people caught her attention.

"Why did Mr. Perkins bother to attend the interview for an assistant? It doesn't make sense."

"Who knows what someone in his position is thinking?"

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Ariana was taken aback by the revelation.

Was Adrian not supposed to be present in the interview? Did he purposely come to meet her after noticing her on the 99th floor? 10

She studied the business card again and was jolted by her own thoughts.

Did he have an infatuation with her and expect her to reciprocate to get the job? Why was he so keen on her? And those questions he asked during the interview, were they designed to test her limits?

Ariana shook her head in disbelief, finding the idea absurd. She couldn't fathom how Theodore would react if he ever got wind of it. ③

The mere thought of it caused her to shiver involuntarily. She promptly pocketed the card and scurried away. ①