

Unrepairable Love /

I married a man novel

Chapter 61

Este hesitated, her hand hanging over the saffron package. She watched Lily dash to the docent, feeling a twinge of annoyance and biting her lip. When Elizabeth showed up, Lily didn't even glance at the saffron!

The hall door creaked open, and everyone turned to look. Seeing the newcomer, gasps filled the room. Everyone's eyes widened, filled with surprise and admiration. Even Lib was taken aback for a moment, then she smiled. When it came to beauty and presence, Elizabeth had it all.

Elizabeth strutted in, wearing a sexy silver memoid gown, her hair perfectly styled. Her fair skin, the hint of her chest, and the dress hugging her curves showcased her elegant neck and shoulders. Her face was flawless, with exquisite makeup, red lips, and captivating eyes, making her look like a queen.

Elara, who had been greeting guests outside, followed her in, exclaiming, "Elizabeth, you look stunning in anything! I'm totally smitten!" Everyone nodded in agreement, showering her with praise. "She truly is the Percy family's gem, absolutely flawless!" "She's the most beautiful woman in Lisbon, hands down." "I thought Ms. Russell was pretty, but next to Elizabeth, she doesn't stand a chance!" "Alexander really lucked out; how did he win over someone as...orgijaim...Ma. Percy?"

Lily's ears perked up, beaming with pride as they praised her grandson's wife. Elizabeth was indeed the most beautiful... Esme, on the other hand, was fuming. She glared at the radiant Elizabeth. Why did Elizabeth always have to steal the spotlight? Esme bit her lip harder, clutching the box so tightly her fingertips turned white, wishing it was Elizabeth... Her hatred for Elizabeth was growing.

"Elizabeth, where's Alexander?" Lily held Elizabeth's hand, her eyes sad. She didn't want to lose her.

"Grandma, he's busy," Elizabeth lied casually. She hadn't planned to attend the party with Alexander. He had been sensible enough to stay away recently.

"That is just an excuse!" Lily snorted, knowing they were arguing.

“Grandma, it’s your birthday. Don’t worry about us,” Elizabeth said, leading Lily to the center of the hall. It was clear Lily favored Elizabeth. As soon as Elizabeth arrived, Lily got up to greet her personally. Who else at the party got that kind of treatment? Even when Eune brought her son, Lily only stood up without much fanfare.

“The president of Catty Group, Kieran, is here to wish you a happy birthday!” came a reminder from outside. Elizabeth turned slightly, seeing Kieran in a black suit, looking dashing and a bit rakish.

“Grandma, happy birthday!” Kieran hurried over to hug Lily. Lily patted Kieran’s head, treating him like her own grandson, and scolded, “You need to find a girlfriend! Won’t it...trally worrying?”

Kieran’s handsome face fell, and he said, “Grandma, why do you always push me to get married every time we meet?”

“Why else? You’re powerful and influential now, so of course, I focus on your love life,” Lily said, acting a bit childish. Kieran, always helpless with this side of Lily, changed the topic, asking, “Has Alexander arrived?”

“Not yet, I don’t know where he is, that bastard!” Lily said through gritted teeth. Kieran raised an eyebrow. Elizabeth pursed her lips, looking slightly helpless. Lily’s impression of Alexander right now was clearly not that great.

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Kieran clapped his hands, and the butler stepped forward. “Grandma, this is a gift from the Getty family. Please accept it,” Kieran said. The butler of the Getty family presented a handcrafted sapphire pendant, meticulously carved and adorned with small diamonds. It dazzled under the light, catching everyone’s eye.

“Grandma, I hope you stay healthy, and may God bless you!” Kieran handed it over personally.

Lily was delighted: “What a wonderful gift!” she exclaimed. Sapphire was her favorite, so this gift truly touched her heart.

“This gemstone looks extraordinary!”

“But that rare saffron plant is the most valuable gift today!”

“That’s right, the saffron is the highlight of the evening! The Russell family is the real winner!” Esme twirled her hair, exuding pride. “This gemstone... is it really valuable?” she asked, her tone carrying a hint of disdain. She wasn’t interested in jewels and felt no one could outshine her saffron tonight.

Kieran glanced at her, feeling somewhat offended. Considering the Getty family’s status, would they give an unworthy gift? Esme’s words were a provocation to the Getty family. Elizabeth noticed Kieran’s expression and smiled faintly. “This necklace is the rare sapphire pendant everyone’s been talking about. Kieran only acquired it a few days ago.” Since it was rare, it must be valuable. In fact, the pendant was worth at least 1.2 million dollars.

“The Getty family really went all out,” Elizabeth said, smiling gently.

Kieran felt comforted. This was how someone with class talked. Previously, because Alexander didn’t like Elizabeth, he held some prejudice against her. But recently, he had been feeling a strange fondness for her.

Esme’s expression turned unpleasant. Elizabeth’s words made her look uneducated!

“Elizabeth, Kieran, you came at the right time! Mr. Russell has gifted me a rare saffron plant, the only one of its kind. Shall we take a look together?” Lily invited.

Kieran was surprised the Russell family managed to get that rare saffron plant. It seemed Esme had gone to great lengths to marry into the Tudor family!

“Wouldn’t miss it for the world,” Elizabeth smiled.

Everyone gathered around Esme. She once again felt the dazzling spotlight. She raised her chin and glanced at Elizabeth. With so many people here, she would maintain her persona and not make things difficult for Elizabeth. Otherwise, she would have made Elizabeth kneel and beg to see the saffron!

The packaging was unwrapped to the last layer. Everyone held their breath, faces full of anticipation. The rare saffron that had captivated the entire city was finally about to be revealed! Even Kieran was a bit excited! What did this rare saffron look like? Were its effects really as legendary as rumored?

The packaging was open, revealing the rare saffron plant, causing a gasp in the room.

“Is this the legendary rare saffron, the only one of its kind? Why do I feel like something’s off?” Elizabeth thought inwardly.

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Logically, a rare saffron should be dry and red. So why does this one look a bit damp? This saffron looks just like the ordinary ones I see at the market. It’s really weird. Elizabeth wondered...

Elizabeth scoffed. So, Esme had been bragging about getting that rare saffron, but it turned out she just got a fake one. At such a grand birthday banquet, Lily cared a lot about her reputation. Where did Esme get the nerve to do this?! If she got exposed for bringing a fake, it wouldn’t just be the Russell family’s reputation at stake, but Lily’s as well. Bringing a fake one, how could Lily not be angry?

Meanwhile, the place buzzed with excitement.

“The Russell family is real something. We all fought over this rare saffron, but we just couldn’t beat the Russell family!”

“Exactly, I could have paid the billion-dollar price too, but I still didn’t get it because the Russell family has connections!”

“The Russell family truly lives up to being one of the four great families! Lily is so fortunate; this rare saffron will surely be very beneficial for her health.”

“The Russell family really put in the effort this time. It’s no wonder Lily changed her impression of them!”

A middle-aged man immediately stepped forward and flattered earnestly.

“Lily, thanks to you, we all get to see the saffron! In this position, we probably wouldn’t see this rare saffron in our lifetime!”

Another nodded in agreement, saying, “Yes! We’ve been fighting over it for so long, and we didn’t even know what it looked like. Thanks to Lily’s generosity, we get to see it and broaden our horizons!”

“With Lily’s magnanimity, she will surely live a long and healthy life. Everyone agrees, right?”

Everyone nodded and clapped, continuously echoing their agreement. Lily smiled upon hearing this. She felt her reputation was greatly enhanced. She

couldn't help but glance at Esme, her tone softening a bit. "M. Rowell, thank you. Please convey my gratitude to your father."

Essor smiled brightly. "Mrs. Lily, as long as you're happy, it is all worthwhile."

Lily looked at the saffron, touched it, and couldn't hide her delight. She didn't expect to actually get this rare saffron! Today's birthday banquet was worthwhile.

Meanwhile, the live-streaming platforms were buzzing with discussions.

[Is this the only rare saffron in the world? It doesn't look like it!] [The Russell family is amazing, they really got this rare saffron! I heard it's worth a billion dollars!] [The Russell family is so generous! They really went all out to make Lily happy! We can see it for free? Lily is so magnanimous!] [I heard the Tudor family and the Russell family had a feud. Now that the Russells have given this rare saffron, do they still have a feud? Haha!] [Lily is amiable, probably because she broadened my horizons.] [Inside the scene, everyone was profusely praising Esme.] [Even Lily was no longer the main focus.] [Ms. Russell, can we have a meal together sometime?] [Ms. Russell, can we add each other on Facebook?] [Ms. Russell, you don't have a boyfriend yet, right? How about we get to know each other?]

Esme, amidst the crowd, looked at Elizabeth. Elizabeth was blocked outside the crowd, but they could still see each other through the gaps.

Chapter 64

Elizabeth caught the sarcasm and malice in Esme's eyes; she was definitely trying to provoke her. Lily was all about her reputation, so the Russell family made sure to give her plenty of respect today. How thrilled was Lily tonight after being pampered? Could Elizabeth even compete with that?

The room was buzzing when suddenly someone shouted, "What did the young lady of the Tudor family bring?" The room went dead silent for a few seconds, and all eyes turned to Elizabeth. "Yeah, what did she bring?" "Mr. Getty brought a gift; where's Mrs. Tudor's gift?" Someone saw her come in empty-handed. "Did she really not bring anything for Lily?"

"No matter how much Lily likes her, she can't show up with nothing! She represents the Percy family. Are no other Percy family members coming? Isn't that embarrassing for Lily?"

Elizabeth looked around, surprised at how quickly the conversation had shifted. One second it was all about Esme, and the next, it was all about her. Like noticed these too. Not a single person from the Percy family had shown up today! It was one thing for Elizabeth's parents to skip, but her grandparents? With all the rumors online, could it be...?

Lily frowned as someone behind her whispered, "None of Elizabeth's family is here, and she didn't bring a gift for Lily. Plus, that Elizabeth and Alexander are really getting a divorce?"

"Don't talk nonsense! Elizabeth and Alexander are fine!" Lily snapped, shutting them down fiercely.

With Lily's outburst, everyone immediately clammed up, not even daring to breathe! No one wanted to cross Lily. Esme cleared her throat and, in the silence, asked, "Elizabeth, you didn't really come empty-handed, did you?"

Elizabeth smiled slightly, meeting the crowd's gossip-hungry eyes, and said firmly, "Of course not!" Lily's birthday, and she came empty-handed? No way. So, what did Mrs. Tudor bring?

Elizabeth looked up, smiling lightly, and said seriously, "It's the rare saffron everyone's been talking about!" The crowd gasped instantly—what?! That rare saffron; wasn't there only one in the world? Esme had just shown it to them.

Lame was stunned, grabbing the table beside her to steady herself. Elizabeth watched Lame's reaction; she was clearly flustered. Eme gulped and then looked at William. William gave her a firm look, as if reminding Eme of what he had just said! "No matter what happens, just insist that the saffron you gave is real. Don't be afraid!"

Esme composed herself and looked back at Elizabeth. She couldn't believe Elizabeth could actually get her hands on that rare saffron!

If the Russell family couldn't get it, how could the Percy family? Let alone Elizabeth! "Elizabeth, what kind of joke are you making? There's only one rare saffron in the world. If you're claiming you have the rare saffron, then what is this?" Esme slapped the table, looking very angry.

Elizabeth disdainfully looked at the fake saffron on the table.

Elizabeth's words hit the room like a bomb, sparking instant outrage. Lily loved it: "No way it's fake!"

Thabeth's talking nonsense, right? That gift from the Rowells... Exxth! Saffron before. Who are you to say it's fake!

"Rumor has it she's divorcing Alexander. Maybe she's just here to cause trouble out of spite?"

"Yeah, she's totally here to... in the party..."

The accusations and insults made Elizabeth clench her fists. Lily's brow furrowed; she couldn't afford any drama at her birthday bash, especially with all these high-profile guests and the event being livestreamed. Any slip-up would be a public spectacle.

Unbeknownst to Lily, the internet was already buzzing about the saffron.

[Esme's gift is a fake? || Could it really be a counterfeit? Is the Russell family's saffron legit or not?]

Elizabeth glared at Lily, fuming inside. Sure, she was divorcing Alexander, but she wasn't petty enough to crash the party. She took a deep breath and said softly to Lily, "Grandma, Esme's saffron is definitely fake."

Elara rushed over, grabbing Elizabeth's arm with a frown. How could Elizabeth call out Esme's gift in front of everyone? Moments ago, the crowd was thrilled about the rare saffron, and now it was supposedly fake? If it was, the Russell family was deliberately embarrassing Lily.

Sensing trouble, Kieran quickly called Alexander. "Where are you? Why aren't you at Grandma's party yet? You need to get here now—your wife and Esme are about to throw down!"

Esme, seeing the crowd siding with her, decided to deny everything. No one had seen this rare saffron before, so she could insist it was real. "My gift isn't fake! Elizabeth, you're just jealous because I'm close to Alexander, and you're trying to slander me!" Esme retorted, arms crossed and chin up. "If you say mine's fake, then show us a real one!"

Elara tugged at Elizabeth. "You don't need to compete with Esme. Even if you can't produce this rare saffron, we still love you. The Tudor family won't—"

Elizabeth knew Elara worried she'd be humiliated. But she had it covered. "Mom, do you think I'm joking?" Elizabeth looked at Elara, who froze. Did Elizabeth really have the rare saffron?

"The Russell family is one of the big four. What does the Perry family have? No way she got that rare saffron!"

"I don't buy it!"

Elizabeth pulled out her phone and dialed a number, her eyes locked on Esme. "Telix, bring my gift."

She hung up, a confident smile on her face. Elara and Lily exchanged glances as Felix walked in. Dressed in a black suit, white gloves, and carrying a box draped in black velvet, he commanded the room's attention. Everyone held their breath, stunned.

Elizabeth really had the saffron? Even Esme straightened up, realizing she had to take this seriously.

Chapter 66

Kirtan crossed his arms and leaned against the stage, watching the chaos with a smirk. Real or fake saffron, he mused.

Felix approached Elizabeth respectfully. "Me Percy, here's the saffron you asked for."

"Put it down," Elizabeth directed, pointing to the platform.

Felix slyly placed the saffron next to the fake one. As he lifted the cover, the difference was obvious.

Elizabeth's face darkened. "Open it!" she commanded.

Felix quickly pulled off the black velvet cloth, revealing a saffron that seemed to glow. Everyone gasped, eyes wide. Elizabeth had designed the saffron's packaging, placing it on a rotating platform under a white glass dome. It looked like a precious end rose, spinning elegantly.

In comparison, Esme's saffron looked wilted, instantly losing its appeal.

"This..." Elara stepped forward, stunned.

Lily looked at Elizabeth and asked cautiously, “Elizabeth, is this the saffron you mentioned?”

“Yes, Grandma, this is the real, rare saffron,” Elizabeth replied confidently.

Esme stared at the saffron, clutching her dipas, unable to speak. Elizabeth’s saffron clearly looked more authentic, making hers seem fake.

She glanced at William, desperate for a solution.

“What about Esme’s saffron?” Lily pointed to it.

Elizabeth sighed. “Grandma, that’s just ordinary saffron. It’s worth maybe three to five thousand dollars, if that.”

Lily’s face soured.

Esme was furious. “Elizabeth, stop slandering me!”

Someone stepped forward, glaring at Elizabeth. “You claim yours is the real, rare saffron. What proof do you have?”

She couldn’t back down. If it was proven that her saffron was fake, she’d be ruined. The Tudor family would despise her, and her chances with Alexander would vanish.

“You say yours is the real rare saffron. What proof do you have?” Elizabeth raised an eyebrow, signaling Esme to present her evidence first.

Esme opened her mouth but had nothing to say.

“Stop dodging! Show your proof that this is the real rare saffron! Otherwise, yours is fake!” Esme’s face turned red. She looked at the crowd, hoping for support, especially from those who had praised her earlier.

“Since Ms. Russell wants proof, I’ll provide it,” Elizabeth said.

Elizabeth glanced at Felix, who nodded and held up a high-tech identification device from Hidden C...

Chapter 67

Esme, though anxious inside, kept her composure. “Check all you want!” she said. “I spent a billion dollars on this saffron. You think I wouldn’t know if it’s real? Would I dare give Lily something fake?” Eume tossed her bag aside and pulled up a chair, sitting down with confidence. “Ms. Percy, if you falsely accuse me today, even if you kneel and apologize, I won’t forgive you!” Esme snorted.

Did Elizabeth think Esme had no temper? What right did Elizabeth have to say *her* saffron was fake?

“And what if I’m not falsely accusing you?” Elizabeth tilted her head.

Esme sneered, pointing at Elizabeth’s high heels. “Then *I*’ll kneel down and polish your shoes myself!”

Everyone in the room was on edge, curious about this “real or fake saffron” drama. The Percy family’s power was far inferior to the Russell family. How could the Percy family procure the real saffron? The Russell family had announced early on that they were giving Lily saffron. If it turned out to be fake, wouldn’t they be embarrassed?

Moreover, with Esme being so firm, everyone thought, “The Percy family’s saffron must be fake.” The rare saffron from the Percy family looks no different from a red rose! At least the Russell family’s looks like saffron. I think Elizabeth is just here to stir things up.

“Lily has been so good to her, and she comes to mess up Lily’s birthday party! Lily should have someone drag her out!”

Elizabeth glanced around at the people. Her gaze was cold, but those people showed no fear. Instead, they stared back at her, convinced *her* saffron was fake!

Lily saw this and felt annoyed. She sighed and slowly said, “Enough.” She didn’t care whether the saffron Esme gave was real or fake; she was worried about Elizabeth. If Esme’s saffron turned out to be real, wouldn’t Elizabeth be embarrassed?! With Alexander not here, she had to protect Elizabeth for him and couldn’t let Elizabeth be bullied!

When everyone heard Lily relent, they became even more convinced that Esme’s saffron was real and that Elizabeth’s saffron was fake!

“Wabeth, let’s not check it, okay?” Lily held Elizabeth’s hand.

Elizabeth frowned. “Not check it? What is Lily worried about? Is she afraid it would turn out to be fake and people would laugh at her? But people would laugh at the Russell family, not Lily.”

“Grandma,” Elizabeth protested; she wanted to continue with the verification.

Lily let go of Elizabeth’s hand, her tone a bit displeased. “I said no need to check it, Elizabeth, are you not listening to me?”

Making Lily angry was not Elizabeth’s intention. If she made Lily upset enough to end up in the hospital, it would be a loss. Elizabeth had no choice but to lower her head. After much hesitation, she decided to endure it and finally agreed. “To you, Grandma.” Elizabeth glanced at Esme, her eyes complicated.

Este didn’t expect Lily to speak up and help her avoid a disaster. She was instantly moved.

“Elizabeth says to listen to Lily, but is Lily just trying to save her from embarrassment? Is this matter just going to end like this?”

The Russell family went to such lengths to give Lily a grand gift. Why should Elizabeth slander them?

“Ms. Russell, you should make Elizabeth apologize to you!”

“That’s right, make her apologize!!”

Chapter 67

A group of people suddenly spoke up in favor of Esme, aggressive and arrogant. At that moment, Elizabeth saw what human nature was. No matter if it was related to them or not, they wouldn’t miss any chance to mock others!

“She’s just a young woman who got married early. Does she even know anything about precious herbs? I think she just feels that Alexander and Ms. Russell are too close and wants to retaliate!”

Everyone immediately nodded in agreement. They all felt that she was just a young woman who got married early. This sentence kept echoing in Elizabeth’s ear.

Chapter 68

Why don't you just take your "me and..."?

The crowd inside the venue started to get restless again, mercilessly mocking Elizabeth. They had hacked her down because she didn't want to upset Lily. But in their eyes, it was just fuel for them to hurt her even more—how they wanted to play in the mud, whose suffering was real to them!

Elizabeth grabbed the testing device from Felix and, amidst the crowd's jeers, scanned the saffron she had brought.

"Elizabeth—" Ele called out, her eyes full of worry.

Before the crowd could close their mouths, the device emitted a clear female voice: "Current item detected: Saffron, grade nee medicinal het, voy vor in the..."

The crowd was noisy, and many didn't hear the device's voice clearly. Elizabeth looked at their disdainful faces and scanned her saffron once more.

The device spoke again: "Current item detected: Saffron, top-grade rare medicinal herb, only one in the world, incalculable..."

Elizabeth pressed the repeat button. The device kept repeating: "Saffron..."

Suddenly, the venue fell silent. Esme's face turned dark instantly, her heart tightening fiercely. Was the saffron Elizabeth brought really that rare? Eume wasn't the only one shocked; the onlookers were too.

"Elizabeth, is the saffron you brought really..." Elara's eyes were full of shock.

Elizabeth pressed the repeat button again, and the device immediately said: "Current item detected: Kaffen." She didn't explain, letting the device's result speak for her.

The previously aggressive onlookers were now as quiet as mice. Lily pointed to the saffron Come had brought. Elizabeth unhesitatingly scanned it with the device.

In less than five seconds, the result was out: "Current item detected: Inferior, valued at one thousand dollars. Sation damaged, estimated value and be headed dalan."

Everyone held their breath, gripping their wine glasses tightly. The stone brought was actually Glat...

Tibeth looked up, scanning the crowd, and asked, "Do I need to repeat it again?" No one spoke, so Elizabeth pressed the button a few more times.

Current item detected: Inferior saffron...

The Russell family really put in a lot of effort! Elizabeth smiled at Esme. "Is this the so-called billion-dollar gift the Russell family prepared for Lily?"

The onlookers were stunned; the gift Esme brought was actually fake. Esme's expression was ugly, and she could barely breathe.

Felix smirked at Esme's pale face and pressed on, "The Russell family announced to the world early on that they had obtained saffron, and now they bring a fake one? Are you humiliating yourselves? Or is it that the Russell family never took Lily's birthday banquet seriously to begin with?"

Chapter 69

Lily glanced at home and thought, *Did Til really give me a fake saffron? Is she looking down on me?*

Esme, looking pale, quickly shook her head and said, "Mrs. Lily, don't listen to him. The Russell family has always been loyal to the Tudor family. I respect you deeply!" She desperately wanted to be part of the Tudor family. How could they look down on them?

Esme bit her lip, pointed at the instrument in Elizabeth's hand, and said, "This is genuine, rare saffron! It can't be fake! There must be something wrong with her hands on it?" Yeah, it had to be the instrument. She couldn't get the real tare sallion, so it was impossible for a useless person such as Elizabeth to get her kan.

Thinking this, Esme glared at Elizabeth and accused, "You tampered with the instrument!" She couldn't believe Elizabeth had the rare sallion! She'd been bragging about getting the saffron in front of Elizabeth, and now it was in Elizabeth's hands! Had Elizabeth had it all along? Had she been mocking her? Wasn't this a huge humiliation?!

"This is a nationally certified instrument, guaranteed to be genuine," Fella said seriously. I don't believe it. Esme needed more time until Alexander could

help her. ‘Unless...’ Labun had a master appraiser, Leonard Robinson! He could tell at a glance if something was genuine! Whether he’d seen the rare saffron wasn’t important. What mattered was that inviting him would buy her time, and Alexander would come to help her.

“Unless Leonard Robinson says the saffron I gave is fake, I won’t admit it!” Esme said confidently. Everyone looked at each other and murmured, “Leonard?” Elizabeth squinted and smiled, “That old weirdo?”

“Leonard is an academician! How can you call him an old weirdo?” someone in the crowd scolded. Elcabeth didn’t care and looked at Lily, saying, “Grandma, since Mrs. Russell tampered with the instrument, why not invite Leonard to tell the real from the...”

Just then, a dignified voice came from outside the door. Everyone turned to look. *It’s Lily’s birthday, and you’re all making such a fuss, what is...*

An elderly gentleman in a black suit—Leonard—stood there, leaning on a cane, looking serious. Fame was stunned. How did Leonard get here so quickly? Following Leonard was Blake Tudor, Alexander’s father, who had just gone to pick him up. Seeing Leonard, Lily immediately went to greet him, smiling. “Leonard!” They hugged, clearly old friends! They were college classmates and lifelong friends but kept it low-key.

Fame had miscalculated. “What’s going on at this birthday party?” Leonard was displeased. “Exactly, can’t get any peace!” Blake added unhappily.

“Leonard, we didn’t mean to argue, but there are two saffrons here, and one is rare! Can you help us tell which one is real?” someone asked. Leonard frowned. “Two saffrons?”

Everyone made way, and Leonard saw Elizabeth by the table. His eyes lit up with surprise, and he was about to greet her. Elizabeth shook her head and gave Leonard a look. Now wasn’t the time for greetings! Leonard understood and went straight to the two saffrons.

Esme quickly introduced herself, “Hello Leonard, I’m Esme from the Russell family! My father is Stephen Russell!” Leonard glanced at her and responded calmly, “I’ve heard of him.” Eme felt a bit awkward. Stephen, the president of the Russell Group, was from one of the four major...

“Leonard, could you please help us determine which of these is the real rare saffron?” Elara asked. Although she believed Elizabeth’s saffron was the genuine article, she needed Leonard’s confirmation to convince everyone present.

“Which saffron belongs to Ms. Busel?” Leonard asked Esme. He had seen the Russell family announce in the news that they were giving Lily the rare saffron. Esme immediately pointed to her saffron. A hint of contemplation flashed in Leonard’s eyes, and then he twitched his mouth. Leonard looked at the saffron and couldn’t help but laugh.

Everyone’s eyes in the room fell on Leonard, as if they had received some signal, and they hurriedly said, “It seems that Ms. Bussell’s saffron is the real one!”

For Ms. Russell, she went through so much trouble to celebrate, only to be wronged like this. Esme immediately felt aggrieved upon hearing this. Her tears came quickly, and in just a second, her eyes turned red. She hadn’t shed a tear when she was wronged earlier, but now that she was proven wrong, she couldn’t help but want to cry.

But what Leonard did next left everyone dumbfounded. “I’ve seen this in a book before; this one is real—” Leonard picked up the saffron Elizabeth had given and confidently said, “This is the genuine rare saffron!”

“This saffron looks like a rose. As for the one Esme gave—” Leonard laughed again as he pointed to Esme’s gift, “That’s just an ordinary saffron.” His cheerful and open voice reached everyone’s ears. For a moment, everyone was at a loss. It turned out that Leonard’s earlier laughter wasn’t because Esme’s saffron was the real rare one; it was because it was just an ordinary saffron.

“Leonard, are you telling the truth? Is the saffron Elizabeth gave really the rare one?” Lily demanded. Leonard nodded seriously. “Lily, when have I ever misled you? Besides, with so many people here, I certainly wouldn’t lie. I can’t be so shameless.” As he spoke, Leonard glanced at Esme. That look seemed to say: *She really has no knowledge.*

Esme’s expression suddenly turned very ugly, a tightness in her chest, and she almost fainted. Everyone in the room fell silent, so quiet that they could hear a pin drop. Elizabeth watched the embarrassed faces with great interest, her lips curling into a bright smile. She wanted to see who would still dare to say that the saffron she gave was fake. She either didn’t give gifts or gave real ones.

Giving fake things to pass off as the genuine article was something only an idiot like Esme could come up with!

“Esme, do you have anything else to say?” Elizabeth raised an eyebrow and lazily asked. Lily also looked at Esme, snorted, and was visibly angry. At her birthday banquet, the Russell family had made a big deal about giving her a rare saffron, only to end up giving her a fake one!

If Elizabeth hadn't brought the real rare saffron today, wouldn't she have been showing off a fake rare saffron to her friends? Wouldn't they laugh their heads off? They would definitely say Lily was a fool who couldn't tell what was good. The more Lily thought about it, the angrier she got.

“Grandma,” Esme looked at Lily, and her tears fell instantly. “I didn't know, I was deceived! I spent a lot of money. I didn't know it was fake. I genuinely wanted to celebrate your birthday!” Esme grabbed Lily's arm, losing her queenly aura in an instant, leaving only a pitiful facade. And those who had fanned the flames earlier were now completely uninvolved.

Lily pushed Esme's hand away and said indifferently, “Ms. Russell, I appreciate the Russell family's good intentions!” With that, Lily went to catch up with Leonard. Her attitude said it all, and Esme's heart instantly sank.

Elara snorted, crossed her arms, and asked, “Who was it that said if it turned out to be fake, she would kneel down and polish Elizabeth's heels?” As soon as she said this, Esme's face turned even paler. At such a large birthday banquet, they wanted her, a young lady of the Russell family, to kneel down and polish Elizabeth's heels?!