

## Virginity 171

Chapter 171: Why don't you want to see me?

Serena stared coldly at Tommaso: "No matter how tired I get in the future, it has nothing to do with you in any case. I would like you from now on not to harass me anymore. There is a rule that employees are not allowed to have romantic relationships. If I remember correctly, you are already married, aren't you? A married man who keeps bothering a single woman. I could make a report to the superiors, then..."

Tommaso's gaze became fierce.

"You are so funny. Do you realize where you are working now? How dare you talk to me like that. Aren't you afraid I will kick you out immediately?"

"Since when does Mr. Esposito have the right to kick personnel out of the Ferrari Family Group?"

Before Serena spoke, a male voice suddenly sounded.

That voice to Serena very familiar. As soon as Tommaso heard that voice, he panicked, "Mr. Leonardo, how come you are here?"

Leonardo?

Hearing that name, Serena wanted to run away immediately. Lately she was always trying to dodge

from him, both at work and at home.

But at that moment she was standing right there.

"Tommaso, since when do you have the right to fire staff at will?"

Although Leonardo was the vice president and always acted nice to people, his decisiveness and the pressure he could bring to bear on people came to a head in serious situations.

Tommaso was so frightened that he bowed his head and said tremblingly, "Mr. Leonardo, I only saw that this staff is not working. I only said it to scare her but I really didn't want to fire the staff."

"Really?" Leonardo stared at him, "Is she not working or is it because she doesn't want to be harassed and you are intimidating her?"

Tommaso began to break out in a cold sweat. He gave an embarrassed smile, "Are you kidding? How could I harass her?"

"Do you think I didn't hear your conversation?"

Tommaso could no longer say anything at that moment. His legs weakened and he fell on the ground,

"Mr. Leonardo, I don't know what's on my mind, but please forgive me just this once."

Leonardo warned him in a cold voice, "Listen well, even if she is in your department now, you can't touch her, even a finger. Got it?"

"Understood." Tommaso nodded strongly.

"Now go away." It was the first time for Leonardo to say such vulgar words. Serena looked at him in amazement.

The usual look of kindness at that moment was icy, completely different, as if he was another person.

So was it true that people had dual personalities? Leonardo seemed to be friendly to everyone normally, but he actually had such a frosty side.

While Serena was thinking about it, Leonardo turned around and his gaze crossed to Serena's.

Suddenly Serena seemed to have remembered something. She turned around, intending to leave.

Leonardo stopped her.

"What did I do to make you run away as soon as you see me?"

Serena said nothing.

She remained silent for a while and tried to walk away but Leonardo blocked her again. Impatiently,

Serena turned to run away. But before she could do it, Leonardo grabbed Serena's hand.

"Let me go!" Serena wanted to get rid of him. There were enough people there, among whom many were from the work company. If they saw her and Leonardo in that situation, they would surely start another barrage of rumors.

If those rumors reached Cristian's ears.

"Unless you tell me what is the reason you don't want to see me, otherwise I won't leave you."

Compared to Serena who was getting nervous, Leonardo's tone was calm, as if he did not care at all about being seen by others.

The reason she didn't want to see him? Serena did not know how to tell him. She did not even want to see him at that moment. She could not accept that the stranger she had slept with that night was Leonardo!

"Let me go." Serena continued to release herself as if she had not heard Leonardo's words.

Leonardo's hands were like chains, which locked her firmly in the place.

"Is it because I gave your mother 300,000 euros? Do you feel indebted to me? Is that why you don't want to see me?"

Serena said nothing.

"If that's the reason, then you don't need to do that, because that money I gave her without your consent has nothing to do with you. You shouldn't feel any pressure. I'm not asking you to return it."

Hearing this, Serena became slightly agitated, raised her eyes and stared at the person in front of her.

"Do you think that's the main reason? Leonardo, let me go."

Leonardo squinted his eyes, noticed that Serena's gaze was full of confusion. He remained puzzled.

"Then what is the main reason? Tell me!"

He gripped her wrist tightly.

Serena frowned and said, "You're hurting me."

Leonardo regained his senses and quickly let go of Serena's hand, "Sorry, I was impulsive. Did I hurt your wrist?"

Serena took two steps back, "My hand is fine, but I still have many things to do. I'm leaving now."

Serena ran off. Leonardo wanted to catch up with her, but finally stood still staring at her as she ran away.

Elena, who saw that scene, clenched her fist and her expression was furious.

Gaia looked at Elena and said, "She is going to far. Who does she think she is? She didn't give a bit of respect to Mr. Leonardo, and he doesn't even get angry!"

Elena liked Leonardo.

This was something that almost everyone knew.

Not only Elena, many employees were secretly in love with Leonardo. After all, he was kind to everyone and was the vice president. Plus he was handsome and attractive. Who wouldn't like him?

Elena had been in love with Leonardo for a long time, but he though he addressed a few words to her, but never considered her seriously.

Seeing Leonardo's affectionate attitude toward Serena at that moment, Elena was dying of jealousy.

"Elena, don't be angry. Mr. Leonardo surely won't like that kind of woman like Serena. Maybe he was only talking to her about business things."

Elena bit her lip, "Bah, who does she think she is? A woman like her, Mr. Leonardo wouldn't even look at her."

"Surely she is the one trying to seduce Mr. Leonardo. That bitch! She has already been demoted. What

does she want to do? I'll give her a good lesson!"

In evening. When everyone had finished their work and was about to leave, Elena suddenly stopped

Serena.

"Newcomer, I have something to tell you!"

Chapter 172: Who does she think she is?

Serena looked at her without saying a word.

"Did you hear me? Look I'm talking to you."

Serena then replied with a smile, "You are shouting so loudly. How can you think I didn't hear you?"

Elena Mariani looked at her and was full of anger, "Then why don't you answer me?"

"Didn't you say you had something to talk to me? Well, hurry up! I also have to get off work."

Elena was so angry that she wanted to go over there and slap her in the face, but she reconsidered her

plan for a moment and restrained herself from doing so.

"I apologize for everything that happened between us in the past. It was all my fault."

Serena paused for a moment, and could not refrain from raising her eyebrows in disbelief. However,

seeing Elena's face covered in anger, Serena almost had the feeling that Elena was preparing to beat

her up at any moment. "Miss Elena came to bring me her false apology. And I thought you hated me,

before you said this."

"You!"

"I tell you the truth. I don't care what your goal is. We are mere employees, and I don't understand what you'll gain by turning against me. Now you even apologize to me. It's better to end it here. I don't want to talk to you anymore."

And as she finished speaking, Serena turned and left.

As soon as she left, Gaia Ferrara emerged from the shadows: " It's useless to get angry. Elena, but who does she think she is? And she also has the nerve to not accept your apology. Rest assured, even if she doesn't trust us, we will find a way to fix her right."

Time flew by, and the eve of the company's anniversary arrived in no time .

Alice Giordano then went to visit Serena for the occasion.

"I heard about your company's anniversary celebration. Tomorrow...can I participate as your family member?"

"I don't know.If you really want to be there in any case, I'll ask if it's possible."



Alice, hugging her, gave her a kiss, "Thank you Serena. You are great."

Serena smiled at her, "No problem. As long as you're happy." So she paused for a moment and Alice's brother Matteo came to her mind.

Since they had exchanged Facebook contact last time, they had not heard from each other because of too much embarrassment. Now that Serena wanted to talk to her about it, Alice came up with the idea of going shopping.

In truth, Serena did not want to dress up for the occasion. A simple dress would be perfect for hiding in the crowd. After all, there were too many enemies in the company. Keeping a low tone at the celebration would have been better.

Who would expect Alice to choose a long red dress for her.

"No, this is too conspicuous," Serena bluntly refused.

Alice, however, grabbed her waist and said, "But what are you afraid of? You are Mrs. Ferrari. What's wrong with showing off a little?"

"Yes but...no come on, that's too much."

No one in the company knew she was Cristian's wife, and besides, she and Cristian were going to

divorce sooner or later, so she was only temporarily his wife.

"If price is the problem, don't worry. I'll give it to you." Alice forcefully pushed her into the dressing room

to ask her try on the dress.

Serena, with the dress in hand, had no alternative but to undress and put it on. Only there was no mirror in the dressing room, and the dress was extremely low-cut. Serena then stood with the dress on without the courage to come out, while Alice called to her from outside, "So, how does it fit? Come out and let me see you."

"Alice, but..."

Serena then opened the curtain of the dressing room and Alice immediately jumped in. As soon as Alice saw her, Alice was thunderstruck. The red of the dress looked great with Serena's flawless skin, and the prominent V-neck showed off her grace. All this, accompanied by Serena's elegant gaze, gave her an incomparable charm. At this sight, Alice remembered the woman she saw in a photo of the Giordano family. The woman was indeed Asia Marini, the hostess of the Giordano family.

Alice's gaze then suddenly became worried. If Serena wore this dress during the celebration, then....

"Alice, what is it?" Serena's question quickly brought her back to her senses. "Nothing, it's just that this

dress looks too good on you. I don't know what to say." Alice replied, shaking her head slightly.

Serena however, visibly embarrassed, tried to cover her chest with her hand, "It's really too low-cut

though, maybe I should try another one."

"But this one is perfect," said Alice who turned around. "I'm going to pay for it."

Serena would like to stop her, but Alice ran away in an instant. By the time Serena changed clothes,

Alice had already purchased two dresses.

"Serena, this is your dress. I have already had it wrapped. Now let's go."

Serena cast a hesitant glance at the clerk, but then could only follow her toward the exit.

As soon as they got into the car, Alice said, "Let me keep the dress first and I'll bring it to you tomorrow.

I don't want you to go back to the store to change it."

"Alice."

"Okay, I'll drive you home."

Alice accompanied Serena to the entrance of the Ferrari family mansion, and they met Cristian who

just returned from work. A flash of contentment leaked from Alice's eyes at the sight of Cristian.

"Cristian!" she shouted. Cristian, however, seemed immersed in his thoughts and suddenly stopped.

Then he set his gaze first on Serena and then on Alice who got more delightful.

"Cristian, I drove Serena home."

"Yes," Cristian merely said.

Then he suddenly added, "It's getting late. I'll have Luca drive you home."

"But no, no need. I'll go home myself," said Alice who was flattered.

Luca, who heard Mr. Cristian's order, insisted, "I'll drive you home. Please don't worry."

Alice then handed him the car key and said, "Then thank you."

"You're welcome. Miss Alice drove Miss Serena home. As Mr. Cristian's assistant, it is my duty to accompany you home now."

Hearing these words, Alice could not hide some embarrassment.

"Let's go, Miss Alice."

After they had left, Serena stood watching the car drive away down the road. Then she heard the sound of the wheelchair behind her. She turned around and saw that Cristian had already gone inside

on his own.

Serena then hurriedly joined him.

"Why...can you explain to me why you told Luca to take Alice home? What are you going to do?"

Cristian kept going without saying a word, as if he had not heard her at all.

Serena then resumed following him, biting her lower lip in agitation, "Speak! What do you want to do with Alice?"

He was always rude to everyone every single day, but now instead he told Luke to accompany Alice home.

Serena then stepped in front of Cristian, forcing him to stop.

"You did it to make me angry, didn't you? You know I don't like you and Alice being too intimate, so you told Luca Russo to drive her home. You wanted to make me angry. Tell me the truth."

Chapter 173: Don't you sleep together?

Cristian stopped the wheelchair and raised his head with a fierce look. Looking at Serena's face, he replied in an ironic tone, "Did I do it on purpose? Miss Serena, you overestimate yourself."

With her face even paler, Serena began to bite her lower lip again, "Whether what I said is true or not,

only you know it."

"Get off," Cristian replied impassively.

Serena remained speechless.

She paused for a few more moments and then, instead of stepping aside, turned and left Cristian in the place. And before he reached the elevator, Serena, who was still angry, hurried to close the doors, forcing him to wait.

As soon as she got to her room, Serena immediately went to take a shower. She couldn't wait to lay down on the bed but got a message from Anna. At first, Anna asked Serena if she was already asleep or not, then asked her if she had prepared her dress for the next day's festivities, and gave her an appointment for the next day before the ceremony to put on her makeup and go to the party together.

Serena then asked Anna about the possibility of taking her friend with her. At Anna's consent, Serena felt much more relieved, and gave Anna an appointment for the next day. They would do their makeup together with Alice, and then all three would go to the festivities together.

As soon as the talk with Anna was over, Serena finally got ready for sleep but noticed that among the messages she received was one from an unknown contact.

Serena, therefore, was intrigued and read the message.

{Already prepared the dress for tomorrow?}

Serena considered this message rather strange. She did not know who sent it? The fact was that as

she was preparing to close the conversation, she suddenly remembered that she had added Matteo

Giordano's contact shortly before, so she opened the contact page but found it was empty with only a

single sentence.

Serena paused for a moment before replying to the message. {Mr. Matteo?}

She waited for quite a while without an answer, but suddenly another notification came to her.

{I had Chiara prepare a dress for you. I will have it brought to you tomorrow}.

Serena was incredulous.

Could it be that Matteo had made Chiara prepare a dress for her? Had she read it wrong?

{But are you Mr. Matteo?}

Still not getting an answer to this question, Serena could only give up.

Before Critsian took shower, he noticed that Serena was on her phone. However, after he got out from

the bathroom, Serena was still on her phone. With a look from which all his discontent shone through, he stared at her trying to divert her attention from the small screen. Although Serena was busy with her cell phone, she suddenly had the feeling that the atmosphere in the room became oppressive. She then cast a glance toward what she identified as the source of this atmosphere and saw Cristian staring darkly at her. Her inquisitive look, accompanied by the thought that she just exchanged messages with Matteo, made her feel with a somewhat guilty conscience.

Serena then turned off her cell phone, turned her back to Cristian, and closed her eyes.

He only got angry over a few messages. He was really a despot.

This man really had a temper.

Serena then, still holding the cell phone, fell asleep almost immediately.

The next morning. She was still sleeping when Alice arrived. Cristian let her directly get into the room and she pulled Serena out of the comforter.

"Are you asleep at this hour?"

Seeing Alice, Serena still thought she was dreaming, "What are you doing here?"

"I came to wake you up!" said Alice as she forcefully tapped a finger on her head. "You really are



sleeping like a pig."

Serena then looked around for a moment. That was her room and she was lying on the floor, however.

"But what are you doing."

"I had nothing to do today so I came a little early. Mr. Alessandro let me in, and Cristian let me in the room here."

Had Cristian agreed to let her in? Serena then looked around searching for Cristian.

"It's no use. He's not here."

Hearing her words, Serena breathed a sigh of relief. She then pulled herself up and, as she prepared to change her clothes, she heard Alice ask her in an astonished tone, "But you and Cristian...don't you sleep together?"

Serena shook her head after a moment's hesitation.

"I had no idea that your relationship was so bad." Alice's words were full of sympathy for Serena, but the tone in which she said them was strangely cheerful.

"Eh yes, not really being husband and wife. Our relationship can only be so bad," Serena replied in an

almost self-pitying tone. "However, it's enough that he gives me a place to sleep. I'm not complaining."

In fact, at first she was forced to sleep outside the room.

Alice was happy to see that Cristian and Serena were on such bad terms. In light of this, she would not take too much effort to get them separated. But then, seeing that Serena was a little depressed, she felt like a bad person.

"Serena...if you're feeling so bad in the Ferrari family, maybe it wouldn't be better...."

"Wait here for a moment. I'm going to get changed and then I'll take you to breakfast," Serena interrupted her while holding a dress.

Serena then went into the bathroom, closing the door behind her. Alice, after looking around, could not resist the temptation to open the closet to take a peek. Inside was hanging all of Cristian's clothes, and she stood dumbfounded staring at them.

At the thought that all those clothes had been in contact with Cristian's body, Alice could not stop herself from stroking them one by one, until she stopped her hand on one suit. The buttons of the suit was something familiar for Alice. A moment later she reflected. Weren't the gold buttons on this suit exactly the same as the one Serena had given her some time ago?

Who would have thought that a suit missing buttons could be kept with the others. If Serena saw it...

No!

Alice paled conspicuously and as the steadily approaching noises came from the bathroom, she hurriedly folded up the suit and put it back in a drawer. She closed the closet just in time that Serena re-entered the room, "Alice, what are you doing standing there?" Alice breathed a sigh of relief and replied, "It's just that I saw you take that beautiful dress, and I wanted to take a look at the others, but I didn't think you shared a closet. But who bought you such expensive clothes? Cristian?"

Serena, after recalling the clothes, nodded her head.

"Yes, he always told me that I dressed inappropriately."

"I figured he bought them for you. Well, he was nice to you after all, just...let's just say he wasn't very gentlemanly to make you sleep on the floor."

Serena then, with a somewhat bitter smile on her lips, changed the subject, "Let's go downstairs and have breakfast."

"All right." Alice, however, turned her gaze back to the closet. How could she take that dress away? Or

at least took the buttons away.

"Serena, I have stomachache. Can you go down first? I have to go to the bathroom."

Chapter 174: Be proactive

Serena, without any hesitation, nodded, "Okay, go, I'll wait here."

"No, no, you don't need to wait for me. Go down. I'll be there in 2 minutes," Alice waved her hand.

Serena then took her cell phone and purse and went downstairs. As soon as she was out of the room,

Alice breathed another sigh of relief.

She really thought herself lucky. After all, Serena was a very naive person. All she had to do was tell

her to leave and she had gone without doubting anything.

Bam!

After closing the door tightly, Alice pulled the suit out again, tore off the two remaining buttons, and put

the suit back in its place. Finally she put the two buttons in her purse, with a hint of a smirk. Now that

she had the possession of the other two buttons, she would no longer be in any danger, right? Even if

Serena found the suit in the closet, the suit no longer had the buttons, and she could not doubt

anything.

If only...Alice's face became worried again.

If only she had not given that button back to Serena. She had obviously been too hasty at that moment.

She should not have given it to her so soon. Now then, she would find a way to get the last button as well.

Going down alone, Serena found the dining hall strangely crowded. There was not only Alessandro

Ferrari, but also the Ferrari brothers. Seeing Serena, Alessandro and Leonardo turned toward her, then

Alessandro looked over her back, "But hasn't Alice come up to look for you? How come you didn't go down together?"

Serena hastened to answer, "Alice will be right down, Alessandro."

"Good."

As soon as they had just finished talking, behind them came first a sound of footsteps, then Alice appeared with smile, "Here I am. Mr. Alessandro, I was late. I apologize. I sprained my foot and therefore I am late."

Hearing Alice's words, Alessandro stared at Serena in a visibly displeased manner, "Aurora, Alice has sprained her foot, and you come down alone without giving her a hand?"

"But I..." mumbled Serena who did not understand why Alice made up this story. And as she was looking for something to say, Alice grabbed her by the arm and explained, "It's okay, Mr. Alessandro, I was the one who told her to come down without waiting for me."

"All right. Eat something now. Alice, sit here." And Alessandro pointed to the seat next to Leonardo.

Serena, who was aware of Mr. Alessandro's intention, did not object.

Alice hesitated for a moment and then took the seat next to Leonardo with her unwavering smile.

Serena wanted to follow her but Alessandro said, "And you Aurora, go and sit next to Cristian."

"Alright...."

Serena, who certainly did not want to disobey the order from Alessandro, walked slowly toward Cristian. He sat impassively, so much so that Serena only needed to sit next to him to feel his coldness.

Alessandro always liked Alice, and the two were always chatting amiably. Alessandro asked her suddenly, "Alice, what do you think of Leonardo?"

Both Alice and Serena were speechless for a moment.

It was obvious by now that Alessandro really hoped that Leonardo and Alice would get together. If

Serena's marriage gone well, it would be a pleasure to have Alice as his granddaughter-in-law.

Unfortunately, however, the marriage between Serena and Cristian would surely break up sooner or later. In light of this, it would not be a good move to have Alice marry with Leonardo.

Overcoming her initial embarrassment, Alice replied, "Leonardo is so good, polite and kind, not bad really."

Upon hearing these words, Alessandro did not hide his satisfaction and stroke his beard, "So Alice, how about...."

"Grandpa," said the taciturn Leonardo who suddenly interrupted him. Maintaining polite and gentle tones, Leonardo looked less gentle and kind.

"There are a few things to do at work. I have to go to the company right now."

"Why so hurry? We haven't even finished our breakfast." said Alessandro who was a little upset.

"Grandpa, you know today is the company anniversary. There is still a lot of things to do at work. If I have time, we will have dinner together."

And as he finished speaking, Leonardo left without waiting for Alessandro's permission.

"Get back here now!" yelled Grandpa angrily, but Leonardo pretended not to hear that.

Everyone continued to sit in obvious embarrassment.

Serena then grabbed the cutlery preparing to eat something, but she was discomforted at what had just happened. She never imagined that Leonardo could disobey Alessandro like this in public and right in the crucial moment. Everyone understood what Alessandro was preparing to say, yet Leonardo left like that.

Cristian always remained silent. There was no expression on his face, as if all this had nothing to do with him.

Alessandro asked, "You left Leonardo to do everything by himself, didn't you?"

Cristian then glanced at him.

"What do you do?"

Cristian then coldly replied, "You don't really think he left because he is busy at work, do you?"

"Then why he left?" asked Alessandro with angry eyes. In truth, he knew very well the reason for Leonardo's escape, but he wanted to blame Cristian for that.

"Whatever," said Cristian who didn't want to continue the discussion and put down the cutlery,

"Evidently someone doesn't like it if I don't go to work right away, too." And so saying, he turned his



wheelchair around and left.

Serena was speechless.

Alice also hesitated for a moment, then stood up and said, "Mr. Alessandro, then let's go too." She then

turned to Serena who was still embarrassed, and winked at her. "Yes, let's go to the company too." said

Serena.

They left the room and Alice suddenly asked her, "Well, aren't you going to help him?"

Serena shook her head, "He doesn't need me to help him."

"You are just...he is a person in a wheelchair. Going to help him is the least thing you can do."

And having said that, Alice promptly went to push Cristian's wheelchair.

"Cristian, I'll give you a hand," she said in a kind and gentle voice.

Moving closer to him, Cristian could not help but smell Alice's sweet scent. He raised his eyes to look

at her, and simultaneously cast a glance at Serena behind them. Then, with an almost defiant smile, he

nodded, "All right, thank you very much."

Serena stood petrified.

She was really angry.

She began to bite her lip, and clutched the corners of her dress tightly with both hands. She wished she knew what was in Alice's mind. She always helped Cristian the bastard. Why didn't she stay away from him?

And the more she thought about it, the more depressed she felt.

She did not even know whether she was angry with Cristian or Alice.

Chapter 175: Psychological Pressure

When they reached the car, Alice pushed Cristian on, but did not get out. Serena stood motionless where she was, in anger. Just then, a car passed in front of her. The window rolled down and Serena saw Leonardo.

"Are you going to the company? I can take you. I'm just passing through." The frost in Leonardo's eyes disappeared. He still had that kind, caring, and polite manner.

Serena turned unconsciously toward Cristian but saw Alice bending down to put something away for him just in time. Cristian's icy gaze seemed to ignore everything.

"Serena, come here!" Alice remembered something and turned toward her while waving her hand.

Serena: "...No need."

Inexplicably, Serena declined and then opened Leonardo's car before they could respond.

"Thanks. Please take me to the company"

Leonardo looked back through the rearview mirror and nodded, "Yes."

The car started, but the one of Cristian's did not move.

Luca, sitting in the front, could not help but cast a glance toward Alice and said, "Miss Alice, why didn't you call Miss Serena?"

Hearing these words, Alice said with an innocent tone, "I called her, but she wouldn't come."

Alice, with a look of regret, "It seems to me that she has a good relationship with Cristian's older brother, otherwise I would get out of the car and bring her here in person." Luca looked Alice in the eyes and frowned.

Wasn't this woman a good friend of Miss Serena? But why she acted like she was back-stabbing Miss Serena?"

Ever since she had arrived, Luca had this feeling, which was now intensifying.

"If Miss Alice doesn't get into Cristian's car, is it possible that Miss Serena can't find a seat?" resumed

Luca who cannot help retorting. Alice paled.

"If you say so, it seems it's my fault. I hadn't thought about it so much. Cristian excuse me, I'll get off the car!"

Finished speaking, Alice turned to get off the car.

"No need."

Cristian stopped her from getting out of the car and coldly said, "Drive."

Luke: "But Mr. Cristian..."

Cristian said in an icy tone: "When did you decide that?"

Luca: "Yes sir!"

He gritted his teeth and reluctantly looked at Alice.

This woman had no good intentions! She even pretends to pity. It seemed he had to find an opportunity to remind that foolish Serena to avoid being back-stabbed by her best friend."

As the car was slowly starting up, Leonardo turned on the music. That was an old European folk song.

The singer's voice was clear but slow, and that wonderful music seemed to transport them to that folk context.

"Isn't it sad?" said Leonardo suddenly.

Serena: "What?"

"Seeing him with another woman. Aren't you jealous?"

Leonardo was direct this time and Serena's facial expression changed.

"Leonardo, don't talk nonsense. Alice is not another woman and she does not have that kind of feeling for him!"

After listening what she said, Leonardo was unable to hold back a laugh that sounded deep and sweet in the background of the song. "How do you know she has no feelings for him? What if she does?"

"Impossible!" said Serena firmly.

She was determined, stubborn, cute and conscientious as a child.

Leonardo could not help but look into her eyes, "You believe in her."

"Alice is my best friend." She said in a serious tone.

Leonardo had a faint smile all of a sudden.

"You just believe it. You won't doubt about her whatever happens?"

Serena nodded without even thinking about it. She was so good with Alice, plus she could see all the things Alice had done for herself recently. She thought Alice was such a person who had done her best to help her.

She could never believe that Alice could do anything unpleasant.

She only feared that Cristian...

As she thought about these things, she did not know that Leonardo was staring at her for so long.

Stopping at the traffic light, he turned and said in a low voice:

"Have you prepared your dress for tonight's event?"

Serena came to her senses and thought back to the flashy red dress Alice had bought for herself the previous day. Froze, she did not utter a word.

"Well? Did you prepare it or no?" Suddenly, Leonardo took a beautifully wrapped box from behind to hand it to her.

Looking at that box, Serena did not reach out her hand to take it.

"I thought you might not be prepared. That's why I chose a dress for you. I don't know if you like it."

Without waiting for her response, Leonardo took the box and placed it in her lap, " Later try it on to see

if it fits."

Serena took the box, puzzled.

What day was today? How come all these people were giving her gifts?"

Alice had bought her a dress last night, then Matteo sent her a message saying that Chiara would send her one today.

Suddenly, Serena felt like the person who lacked the least clothes in the world.

With this thought, Serena returned the box without wasting any time, "Leonardo, thanks... but Alice has helped me prepare one."

After listening, Leonardo was stunned for a while, then smiled quietly.

"Don't worry. You can still take it and when you arrive, you can try them both on, then decide which one suits you best. It's a gift. Isn't it tacky to give it back to me?"

Hearing this, Serena was really embarrassed to return the dress to him, so she kept the box.

"Thank you, Leonardo."

"You don't need to be always polite with your family members. Don't hide from me anymore. The loan I

made last time to your mother means nothing. It's just that when I saw you standing on the road so angrily, it hurt me."

"Your brother-in-law is not an onlooker who does nothing."

What he said made sense. Serena curled her lips and nodded, "I thank you for helping me last time. It's just that...that three hundred thousand euros you lent me, I will pay you back."

"Fool. I'm in no hurry to use those money. Haven't I already told you? Consider them a gift from me."

"No!" Serena seriously shook her head and refused, "That money, I will definitely return it to you."

Please don't pressure me."

"If you say so, it seems that if I refuse, you won't feel well. Then all right. Work hard to return the money soon. It's just that it is not easy to earn that money and when you work hard, you also have to take care of yourself."

"Thank you, brother, I know."

After arriving at the company, Serena got out of Leonardo's car to attend the anniversary banquet.

Many people had not yet arrived because it was still early.

Chapter 176: Why are you reluctant to leave?

Serena stood at the entrance of the company while held a gift box, waiting for Alice.



When Alice got out of Cristian's car, she pushed Cristian out and turned to Serena with a smile,

"Serena, what's in your hand?"

As she finished speaking, Serena felt there was a look on her face as sharp as a knife.

Cristian's gaze was as icy as that of a venomous snake, and Serena could help but contract her neck

and unconsciously clutch the box with her hands.

It was an unconscious action, but in Cristian's eyes that box must be very important to her.

Before she got on Leonardo's car, she was empty-handed, but now with a box? What did it represent?

She was indeed a vain woman.

"Nothing." Serena whispered, clutching the box in her hand, but Alice smiled and pushed Cristian

forward next to her. Serena could feel Cristian's icy, enveloping breath.

She took a step back in an attempt to free herself from his icy encirclement.

"Serena, is this Leonardo's gift? Didn't you bring this box as soon as you got out of the car?"

Hearing this, Serena felt distressed and hoped she could stop talking.

So she winked at Alice, but Alice did not understand what was going on. It really seemed that Alice did

not understand what she meant.

Serena was agitated, but she could not say it outright.

Leonardo parked the car and returned.

"It's nothing. I asked her to help me take it to my colleague."

"I thought it was a gift from you." Alice curled her lips and giggled. That expression...like a cat that had

stolen the fish. At first, Serena thought Alice had not understood her look.

Now, however, she understood, Alice was doing it intentionally!

Why?

Alice knew that the person Serena slept with that night was Leonardo!!!

At the thought, Serena paled, turned and said, "Come in."

Then she quickly left.

"What's wrong?" Alice asked nonchalantly.

Leonardo looked at her, squinted slightly, then left as well.

After they left. Alice pushed Cristian forward, but Luca jumped out.

"Miss Alice, I'll do it."

"No problem." Alice did not back away, but remained still, as if she did not want him to push Cristian's wheelchair.

Luca can not did it as she wished.

"It doesn't matter, Miss Alice. You are not familiar with the company. I'll do it." After speaking, Luke pushed Cristian directly and left without waiting for a reaction from Alice.

Alice stood petrified and stared blankly at Luca who was walking away.

She did not know if it was just her impression, but she felt Luca was very hostile toward her. Why?

Because of Serena?

Luca quickly advanced to catch up with Serena and Leonardo and entered the elevator. When he saw

Alice coming, he moved to the corner and pressed the close button directly.

"Wait for me" She hurriedly called out and saw that the elevator door was closing.

"I am not waiting for you, bitch!" Luca insulted her inwardly.

Next, a petite figure rushed out of the elevator.

It was Serena, "You go up first. I'll come later with Alice."

The elevator door had just closed and Serena returned to Alice.

"Alice."

"Serena..." Alice looked over her shoulder and saw that the door had already closed. A look of disappointment flashed in her eyes.

She wanted to get on the same elevator with Cristian, but it seemed there was no longer a chance.

"I'll accompany you. Let's take another elevator." Serena accompanied her on another elevator, and

Alice looked at the box in her hands, "Is it a gift from Leonardo?"

After listening to her, Serena waited a moment and then nodded.

"Ah, Yes."

"Good. I say he likes you! You would be much happier with him than with Cristian." Alice was squawking and her tone of voice was high.

Serena felt a guilty conscience. Hearing her speak so loudly, Serena's face changed and covered Alice's mouth with her hand.

"The walls have ears. Don't talk nonsense."

Alice giggled and pulled her hand down, "What are you afraid of? I'm just telling the truth. If others hear

that too, there would be nothing to be afraid of. After all, the baby you are carrying..."

"Enough!" Serena's expression changed drastically and she scolded Alice harshly.

Alice stopped smiling, staring at her for a long time. She lowered her eyes, "I'm sorry, Serena. I didn't

think it bothered you so much. It's my fault, so I won't talk about it anymore."

After Alice apologized to her, Serena also felt she had gone too far and wanted to explain herself, "I

don't want to scold you, but there are a lot of people in the company and I'm afraid that people might

take what you said too seriously, creating unnecessary problems."

"I know."

Alice wrung her hands furiously, "But I'm saying this for your own good! Cristian doesn't consider you at

all now. He doesn't dignify you with a glance and even lets you fall to the ground. I really don't

understand how you have been able to resist so far."

"There is an agreement between us." Serena sighed helplessly with a bewildered look.

"However, it's been almost two months and a few more to go."

"A few months..." Alice suddenly lifted her head to remind her, "Serena, what are you thinking? Why

you have to wait until the agreed date?"

"Why... not?" Serena herself did not know what to think if he nevertheless allowed her to leave him now.

There seemed to be some reluctance in her heart. She did not know the reason either.

"No!" Alice began to fidget at her answer. "Serena, you know that in another four months, your belly will

be obvious and if you don't leave Cristian in advance, everyone will understand that the baby you are carrying is Cristian's!"

Serena: "Really?"

"In my opinion you should leave him quickly and get with Leonardo. I know you don't want to say it, but I can speak for you."

Just then the elevator arrived. Alice rushed out and Serena's heart was in her throat with fear. She moved forward to stop her, "Alice, don't be impulsive. This is a delicate matter that needs to be discussed."

"What to discuss? I can wait. He can wait. But can the baby in your belly wait? Serena, why do you

persist in rejecting my proposal? Basically you are reluctant to the idea of leaving Cristian. You like him, don't you?"

Chapter 177: Entering the scene

That last sentence sounded like a question.

Serena did not know if she was the one who felt wrong, because she had never seen this excited look from Alice.

After a while, Serena looked at her.

"Alice, what's wrong?"

Hearing these words, Alice suddenly came back to herself, realizing that she had been overly emotional.

She shook her head and then sneered.

"Aren't you embarrassed to ask me what's wrong? Why am I constantly at your service, seeking the truth for you? Might it not be because I hope you can come out of this sea of suffering as soon as possible? He is already standing in front of you, but you dare not say a word or admit it. I really don't know what you are thinking. So, I just want to know if you like Cristian."

"Actually, I don't know either." Serena lowered her gaze, very downcast, "I guess I shouldn't like him,

but..."

Seeing her unsure expression, Alice faltered for a moment. Did Serena fall in love with Cristian?

"But what? Don't you realize that he doesn't like you?"

By the time Alice came to her senses, the words had exploded from her mouth and it was too late to take them back.

Fortunately, Serena did not pay too much attention to his emotionality, but she was hurt by her words and then nodded with a bitter smile.

"You're right. I can see perfectly well that he doesn't like me."

Not only did he not like her, he hated her.

Thinking about it, Serena grew gloomy little by little, going into chaos.

"Sorry, I didn't say that intentionally. Don't be sad..."

"It's nothing. Let's go inside." Serena took Alice to her office, and after sitting down, Alice did not hold back and opened the box, discovering that there was a blue dress inside.

"This dress is beautiful! By the way, it was designed by a famous Italian designer and was auctioned for



a million."

Serena shuddered, looking at the dress.

What kind of crazy price was this?

She suddenly thought of the three hundred thousand euros that Leonardo gave her mother, but the dress in front of her was worth a million. Serena can not calm down, stood up and put the dress away.

"What are you doing? This dress is much nicer than the one I gave you. Why don't you wear it tonight?"

"No." Serena shook her head, rejecting Alice's suggestion."

"This dress is too expensive, a million...I can't accept it."

After she finished speaking, Serena stowed the box in her locker, planning to return it to Leonardo.

"Of course you're just...always rejecting other people's kindness!"

Time passed very quickly. In the afternoon, Anna came to the company to look for Serena, bringing three people to do their makeup. When Anna saw Alice, her face changed. However, mindful of

Serena's words, she smiled and greeted her.

Alice called the makeup artist directly.

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It was the last glow of dusk, then night fell.

The long-awaited Ferrari Group anniversary banquet finally began. After nearly two weeks of meticulous preparation, the attendees, with the exception of Ferrari Group employees, were all first-class guests who came and went with extreme elegance.

Corporate employees wore all kinds of dresses, vying for popularity and wearing extremely heavy make-up on their faces. They stood at the entrance, watching the rich young man and giggling secretly.

A few small groups of men gathered and burst out laughing.

"Look, they're all like hungry wolves. We look like their prey. If we are not in the public, I'm afraid they would pounce on us to tear us to pieces."

"Don't say that. They look hungrier than wolves to me."

"Look at those women. The foundation on their faces is thick, and the clothes are all flashy, but they are not good-looking nor do they have any temperament. They should not think that by dressing like this they will win our favor, should they?"

"It's okay to have fun. After all, there may be virgins."

"Now it's hard to find those women. Maybe I'd better find some sexy ones..."

Some people were talking and laughing, and the smiles on their faces were especially lewd.

Suddenly, someone grabbed the hand of a man.

"Fabio, I find the goal."

"Where?"

The others followed his gaze.

Three slender figures approached this way.

Anna wore a rainbow dress with a mermaid skirt. There was a radiant smile on her beautiful face. And

Alice was next to her. She wore a white sheath dress with beautiful pearls inlaid on it and her skin was

fair. The smile on her face naturally attracted a lot of attention.

Serena, on the other hand, was wearing that red dress. Because of the V-neck design, she wore a

light-colored and sheer shawl before going out. But the shawl could not cover her exquisiteness at all.

She was very elegant.

This way of appearance made her even more seductive.

She walked very unnaturally, because she felt that she would be under observation with every step she

took. Even though she was already wearing a shawl, Serena still felt very uncomfortable.

Her face was innocent, especially those cold eyes that attracted no small amount of attention.

"Bro, the green dress next to it is not bad. She looks quite hot and her smile is dazzling!"

"I think the one in white is not bad. She looks good and I think she is the daughter of the Giordano

family, right? The Giordano family is different from the others."

"Don't tell me. I was lucky enough to meet Mrs. Giordano before. I think this daughter of hers is ugly.

She hasn't inherited half of Mrs. Giordano's charm at all"

"On the contrary, the one next to her walks unnaturally, but she has charm, not to mention her eyes as

blue as the sea! Ah, I'm going to end up falling in love!"

"Go to hell! How many times do you fall in love a day?"

"I've decided, if the woman in red doesn't have a boyfriend, I'll court her."

The three received attention from all directions. Serena was uncomfortable and walked while hiding

behind Alice and Anna, letting them resist the various stares.

"She is so shy! I like her..." Fabio, who had just said he was in love, could not help but smile.

Chapter 178: Take off that dress

"Fabio, you've enough." Giulio couldn't help but hit him a little bit. "People who can stay with Miss Alice aren't ordinary. Maybe they belong to that group of people. We can't provoke these people."

These young men just wanted to have fun with women.

If they hung out with those who had no power, they can send them away with money.

But they also had rules. They didn't play with people in the social circle, unlike Enrico who only sought for people in the social circle.

"You have all seen Enrico's fate. Maybe it is the reason why Enrico got the consequence. The former Romano family hasn't been stable in North City. Now ... it has been destroyed."

"If she is the daughter of the group, how is it possible that I haven't seen her? Is she really the daughter of the group even if unknown?"

"It's simple. Find someone to investigate her."

Serena finally found a place to sit down. After sitting down, she rearranged her shawl again. Alice could not help but laugh at her.

"Why are you so shy? The dress is made so that you can wear it for everyone to see."

After that, Alice took the shawl, and Serena was so frightened that her face paled, "Don't..."

Anna could not help but look at Alice.

"Don't do that. If she doesn't want to show her body, then don't force her. I think the shawl is very beautiful."

Alice looked at Anna and felt as if she was hostile to her.

"I am a good friend of Serena. I'm doing it hoping she can amaze the audience. Is there a problem with that?"

Anna sneered, "There is no problem with surprising the audience, but there is no need to force people to do things they don't want to do."

"Don't fight." Serena stopped them. "You go eat something. I'm going to the bathroom to tidy up."

Serena lifted her dress and went to the bathroom. Anna stood up with her, "There are many people here. Can you find the bathroom? I'll go with you."

"No thanks. You can stay here and wait for me." Serena turned and left. She remembered that when she arrived, she passed the bathroom and returned there by taking the same route she had taken on the way out.

Serena went to the bathroom to rearrange her dress. She wanted to button her V-neckline but apparently it was not possible. The dress was too tight. The tighter the collar, the larger her breasts became.

She stayed in the bathroom for a long time without succeeding. She had to give up, put the shawl back on, and finally got out.

Just out of the bathroom, Serena was stopped by a man.

"Beauty, do you know the way? Let me accompany you."

Serena looked at him cautiously and took two steps back.

"Thanks, my friends are waiting for me. I can go alone."

She stepped aside, but the man stopped her again, "I just want to make friends. What are you afraid of? My name is Fabio. I am the only son of the Ricci family. I don't want to hurt you. I just want to get to know you. If you don't want me to take you back, giving me your cell phone number is okay too."

"I'm sorry, please let me go." Serena knew that the people who were at the party today were people who could not be offended. So, she could only ask him to leave.

The more coy she was, the more Fabio liked her. And when he approached, he noticed that her face

had only light makeup, and her skin was very delicate. Fabio seemed to grow fonder and fonder.

"I don't want to hurt you. I really want to get to know you. Can't you give me your contact information?"

Fabio showed a pitiful expression, staring at her like a puppy, not to mention how pitiful and sincere his gaze was.

Serena was stunned by that look. A moment later, she smiled, "I'm really busy. My friends are waiting for me."

Fabio was nervous and quickly reached out and grabbed her arm, "What..."

"Let me go!" Serena squeezed his hand. Fabio quickly retracted his hand and changed his expression,

"I'm sorry! I didn't mean to offend you. I was just a little nervous..."

"Mr. Ricci, do you come to the banquet today or do you come to flirt with women?" A cold voice was heard coming from behind them. Serena turned toward the source of the voice, and saw Luca pushing Cristian toward them.

Seeing Cristian, the pitiful look on Fabio's face disappeared. He was terrified by the sight of Cristian.

"Mr. Cristian, why are you here?"



Luca looked at him coldly and said, "Do we have to report to you? Are you a guest? What are you doing here in front of the ladies' room?"

As soon as Fabio heard this, his face immediately turned pale. He unconsciously looked at Serena, then looked at Cristian, and observed the expression on his face.

"Mr. Cristian, I... I got lost, so I was just wandering around."

"Wandering around?" Luca continued coldly, "Are you bothering the employees of our company?"

Cristian's eyes lifted slightly, and his fierce gaze fell on Fabio's face like a knife.

For a moment, Fabio felt tremendous pressure, which made him subconsciously lower his gaze,

"Well...I'm sorry, I didn't know she is an employee of your company."

Then Fabio turned and left.

After he left, Serena heard Cristian scold her in a cold voice, "Do you really like to be bothered by men? Isn't one or two enough, as many as you want?"

Serena's face immediately changed.

"What?"

It was Fabio who caused her trouble. What did she have to do with it?

Cristian's eyes settled on her. Serena lowered her head and found that he was looking at the dress on her body. His eyes were unnerved and disdainful.

"Do you think it has nothing to do with you?"

Serena looked into his eyes and bit her lower lip angrily, "Are you implying that he bothered me because the way I dress? Cristian, your thinking is shameful!"

"Am I shameless, or are you shameless? Why you are dressed like this?"

Seeing her so exposed in front of other people, the fire in Cristian's heart inexplicably burned. The eyes of all the men were glued on her.

This sentence set Serena on fire and made her eyes redden.

"Cristian, you are such an asshole!"

Cristian looked at her coldly, "Take off that dress and change."

"I don't want to!" Serena refused!

"What did you say?"

Chapter 179: No matter what you think!

Cristian stared at her dangerously. His eyes were fierce as a beast.

Serena bit her lip and said, "I'm not changing it!"

"Do you want to dress like that tonight?"

Serena straightened up, lifted her chin slightly and revealed her slender neck, "Everyone is dressed like this. Just because in your eyes I'm a lewd woman you don't like what I'm wearing. Why should I consider your ideas?"

Cristian scowled.

With these words, Serena lowered her shawl in front of him, revealing her tender and attractive shoulders, and then turned directly and to the left.

Luke: "... " This was just like playing with fire!

Cristian's breath suddenly became cold, and his hands clenched into fists.

Cristian looked intently at her slender figure, and heard Luca stammering behind him, "Mr. Cristian ...

Do we need to catch up on her?"

"She's just a wayward, shameless woman." Cristian's thin lips turned up revealing a wicked expression,

"If she wants to show herself, let her do!"

Luke: "... "

He feared that if everyone saw her like this later, Cristian would kill everyone.

However, he only dared to think it in his brain and did not say it out loud.

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Serena returned to her seat and sat down.

"Why were you gone so long and didn't even answer your cell phone?"

Cell phone? Serena quickly reached for the cell phone in her purse and discovered that the cell phone was turned off.

What a shame!

Why did she forget something very important!

Matteo had sent her a dress by Chiara today, but she had not been called back all day, so Chiara....

Thinking about this, Serena asked, "Do you have a power bank and a cable? My cell phone is dead."

Anna interrupted her, "There is a party today. Who would bring such a thing..."

"I brought it." Alice put her bag on the table and took the battery and cable.

Serena immediately attached the cable and left the cell phone on charge for a while before turning it

on.

Fortunately, her cell phone started working again. Serena saw that it had many missed calls and unread messages.

Except for Anna's call, the others were all from Chiara.

Alice was sitting next to her. Casually, she saw a familiar name, and asked confusedly, "Chiara? Isn't she my older brother's secretary?"

Hearing this, Serena nodded, "Yes."

Alice's heart beat, "Why was she looking for you? And why are there so many missed calls?"

Serena remembered Matteo told her to send her a dress. After thinking about it, she thought it was best not to tell Alice, so she explained, "Maybe she wanted to talk to me about the business meeting of last time."

Alice was relieved to learn that it was about work. Alice remembered that they were collaborating,

"Right."

"Well, I'll call her back."

Serena got up and went out with the power bank, and then called Chiara.

"Miss Serena."

"Secretary Chiara, I'm sorry, my cell phone was turned off."

On the other end of the phone, Chiara's giggling could be heard, "Never mind. I wanted to send it to the company. But then I saw that you already had a dress, so I didn't contact you again."

"Thank President Matteo for his kindness."

"You're welcome."

"If it's okay with you, I'm hanging up now."

After Serena hung up the phone, Alice approached her, "Thank my brother for his kindness. What does that mean?"

She suddenly appeared behind her. Serena was surprised by her and covered her chest in fright.

"Alice, you scared me."

Alice smiled, but it was a bitter smile, "I'm asking you, why let the secretary thank my brother for his kindness? Serena, are you hiding something from me?"

Hearing this, Serena frowned slightly.

Hiding? In fact, she did not want to tell Alice the truth. She did not think it was appropriate.

Since she did not receive the dress, there was no need to tell her. However, Alice was her good friend

and Matteo was her brother. Would it be fair for Serena to say that now?

While she was thinking about it, Anna came in.

"What are you doing? Tonight is the anniversary party. Don't stand here whispering. Let's go. I'll take

you to the pool."

At that point they left without her responding.

Having been dragged away, the dialogue between Serena and Alice stopped. Alice felt miserable,

probably because of her guilty conscience. She feared that Serena was doing something behind her

back!

The large pool shone in the light and the water was clear and bright. There was also a piano nearby. A

woman dressed in white was sitting there playing, and men and women in elegant clothes were talking

and laughing.

There was a nice atmosphere.

Anna went to the pool and said, "Let's stay here and not go anywhere. There will be a good show

later."

Good show? Serena and Alice were confused.

"One of you is not part of the company, and the other is new. It's normal that you don't know. During the

company's annual banquet in the evening, the vice president and other rich men will have a swimming competition."

Serena listened to her numbly, "Is it a good show?"

"Of course!" Anna grabbed her hand excitedly, "Vice president Ferrari is in great shape! And not only him, but also many other well-off members of the company. They are really good-looking. It's a beautiful sight.

Serena: "..."

Alice: "..."

A moment later, Alice asked her, "Is Cristian coming too?"

"What?" Anna could not help but roll her eyes and look at Alice, "Did you ask that question intentionally?"



"Huh?"

"Everyone knows Cristian is in a wheelchair. How could he compete?"

Alice reacted too abruptly. Right, Cristian was in a wheelchair.

Perhaps it was because he usually looked so imposing that Alice often forgot the fact that he was disabled.

Speaking of Cristian, Serena recalled the fight in front of the bathroom hallway earlier.

Their relationship was already strained after tonight. Would he hate her more?

Chapter 180: Discomfort

Thinking about this, Serena lowered her eyes without saying a word.

"I'm sorry. I didn't think of that..." Alice smiled awkwardly, but Anna interrupted her by saying that she had a twisted mind, then turned her head toward Serena, and began to have that infatuated look again.

"Hurry up and charge your cell phone. We could take pictures when they are competing."

Alice suddenly asked, "Will everyone be at the game?"

Anna nodded: "Of course, everyone will come, and we will need a referee."

"Only men can compete?"

Anna looked at Alice, "What do you mean?"

"I mean, men can compete, but we women can too."

Anna's eyes lit up, "That would make sense, but ... the organizers didn't arrange anything like that and we have no way to participate."

"Isn't it easy?" Alice smiled, took Serena's arm and then waved to Leonardo not far away, "Leonardo!"

Alice's sudden cry drew Leonardo's gaze.

The moment he saw Serena, his eyes were drawn by that bright red, and he could not move.

At first he thought she was going to wear blue and green to be more elegant. He did not expect her to wear red.

When Alice greeted him, Leonardo suddenly saw her, and noticed that Serena's expression suddenly changed.

Serena lowered her hand and whispered, "Why did you ask him to come?"

Alice smiled and said, "I don't want to do anything. He is just one of the people who are responsible for it here. I want to have a women's swimming competition and ask him to add it."

Serena: "Then you didn't need to look for him. What do you want to do?" Serena told her in a low voice,

"Don't mess around."

"Don't worry. I won't ask him anything right now. I should have your consent."

"Vice President Ferrari is here!"

He arrived with many people behind him. His handsome face showed a weak smile, "What's going on?"

"Leonardo!" Alice said enthusiastically, "I heard there will be a men's swimming competition later, right?"

Leonardo nodded softly.

"Last years there was always only a men's race. Can you add a women's race this year?"

Listening to the speech, Leonardo was a little confused. Alice's request caught him off guard. Alice saw a look of dismay on his face, so she squeezed Serena's hand and pushed her toward him, "This is also

Serena's hope. Would you not refuse Serena's request?"

"I..." Serena wanted to defend herself, but Alice hugged her tightly and said in her ear, "If you don't want me to say anything to him, then help me."

If Cristian arrived at that moment, she would have to come up with an excuse to explain to Cristian why she wanted to take part in such a competition.

Although Anna was a little unhappy that Alice used Serena in that way, she was looking forward to joining, but ... in the end, she said, "Vice President Ferrari, if it's too complicated, let's not add her. We will continue as in previous years."

However, at that moment, Leonardo smiled and said, "I think yours is a good proposal."

His soft eyes seemed to have a blooming light, very soft, not aggressive, and everyone was confused.

"In previous years, the competition was only for men. This year, now that you mentioned it, I think we could add a women's race as well. It could be fun."

Serena: "..."

Fun for what?

This was an anniversary party, not a swimming competition.

But Alice and Anna were eager to attend, and she could do nothing.

"Leonardo, do you agree? Can we sign up later?"

"Of course, I will go to the manager and tell him. I will ask to open registration later. All three of you

want to participate? There is a quota limit. If all three of you want to participate, I will ask the manager to reserve a place for you."

Anna and Alice nodded.

Only Serena did not, so they looked at her.

"Serena, won't you join?"

"Em..." Serena stopped and pulled her lips together awkwardly, "I can't swim."

Of course she couldn't join in.

Anna was surprised, "You can't swim? My God, even if you can't swim, you have to learn well?

Otherwise it's boring."

"No problem, you can cheer for us. Leonardo, reserve two seats for us."

"Okay." Leonardo smiled and nodded.

Shortly after he left, he informed the manager, and then Alice excitedly ran to sign up. Anna made her go first while she stood there.

"Did you notice the way Leonardo was looking at you?"

Serena was amazed, "What?"

"He's clearly in love. He's coming after you. Don't you think?"

Serena: "...you must have seen wrong? I don't have that kind of relationship with Leonardo."

Leonardo following her? That was impossible!

She was Cristian's wife. Even if it was not reality, Leonardo knew that he could not do such a thing.

"I know you don't have that kind of relationship, but that doesn't stop people from liking you, that

look...it gives people a possessive impression, and you know...last time..."

Anna told Serena what happened at the mall last time.

"So I think Leonardo is coming after you, even though you had a relationship with Cristian. If Leonardo

doesn't mind, I think you can-"

"Anna!" Serena interrupted her forcefully, "Never again such a thing!"

Even if she was not together with Cristian, she could not be with Leonardo!

Otherwise...wouldn't it have been incest? How would she and the Gallo family have been viewed if she

had an affair with her brother-in-law?

Anna was startled by her stern expression. She was silent for a long time before nodding, "I know."

Serena fell into her thoughts.

At first, she felt a disorder inside her. After Anna said those words, she could not calm down.

Leonardo couldn't really like her, could he?

But why was he so kind to her? He had spent a lot of money to help her mother. And then ... he had

also given her a dress that was a very expensive.

Adding to that the look and the smile he had, Serena felt...an ominous premonition.