

## Chapter 515 Exiled All Love Rivals

Lilah Briggs was a twenty-year-old international student enrolled at Ublento Medical University, known only as the daughter of a powerful overseas financier and a resident of the exclusive Rosewood Villa. That was all Paulina's investigation had unearthed.

Cole raised an eyebrow. Lilah was the daughter of a mysterious tycoon? He had no trouble believing it. One glance at the luxury car, which happened to be identical to his own, was confirmation enough. She wasn't pretending. She was the real deal: a bona fide heiress.

And yet, that fact didn't sit well with him. If anything, it fueled his irritation. To him, it fit the profile too perfectly. She was a maneater, and he'd seen the type far too many times. The spoiled elite, draped in privilege, flaunting their fortunes while collecting attractive men like trophies.

In his eyes, Lilah was no different. Today's encounter? Just another ploy. She hadn't "mistaken" his car. It was blatantly clear that she'd used it as an opening to flirt. Because he was good-looking, and she'd taken an interest in him. But did she have any idea who she'd just toyed with? And worse, aside from flirting with him, she'd set her sights on his three subordinates as well. Was she trying to draft them all into her collection of admirers?

The longer Cole sat with the thought, his anger rolled more fiercely beneath the surface, like a storm on the verge of eruption.

Paulina, watching him from across the room, felt a sudden chill snake down her spine. She couldn't understand what had triggered his fury so abruptly.

With a sharp crack, Cole slammed the dossier onto the table. "If Lilah dares to come within ten meters of me again, have her escorted out immediately," he snapped.

Paulina blinked, stunned. Just earlier, Cole had looked almost intrigued when Lilah flirted with him. Now this? Was he still stewing in jealousy over Myles, Aron, and even the driver? But no, there was something deeper in his expression. Jealousy alone couldn't explain that look in his eyes. His emotions were tangled, volatile, unreadable. What was going through his head?

Paulina didn't dare ask. She simply nodded, murmuring, "Understood."

Assuming that was the end of it, she turned to leave, but hadn't made it past two steps before his voice cut through the air again. "Tell Myles, Aron, and the driver they're being sent to Sundara for six months of field training. Let them get used to operating in harsher conditions."

Paulina spun around, eyes wide. Was he serious? Because Elliana had complimented the three of them, Cole was banishing them to some remote outpost under the guise of "training?" And his decision even included the driver? What kind of tactical experience did a driver need in Sundara?

She disagreed, strongly. But one look at Cole's stormy expression was enough to silence her. With a reluctant nod, she replied, "Alright."

Once Paulina was sure Cole had no more orders, she slipped out of his office, gently closing the door behind her like she was sealing in a storm.

Waiting outside were Myles, Aron, and Hugh. Ever since Cole's encounter with Elliana, his moods had been swinging wildly, leaving everyone around him on edge. The three men exchanged tense glances, silently bracing for impact. They all knew that when Cole's temper flared, anything could happen.

In calmer times, it was always Myles who dared to approach Cole. Having grown up together, Myles held a rare familiarity with Cole, both as a trusted aide and childhood friend.

But today? Myles wouldn't dream of stepping into Cole's line of sight—not when he was now the unwilling target of Cole's jealousy.

"Paulina, what's going on with Mr. Evans?" Myles asked cautiously, voice barely above a whisper.

Aron leaned in, equally curious and equally doomed. He, too, had

become one of Cole's supposed love rivals today.

Paulina looked at them both with something between sympathy and resignation. "Start packing," she said flatly. "You're being sent to Sundara for six months of training."

"What?" Myles and Aron blurted in unison. Why Sundara? Why now?

Paulina sighed, rubbing her temples. "Right now, the two of you—and yes, even the driver—are like splinters under Mr. Evans' skin. You've got one job: get out of his line of vision and survive the next half-year."

The realization hit Myles and Aron at the same time. Cole saw them as romantic competition. Utterly absurd! They could protest, but what would be the point? With Cole in this state, logic had left the building.

Without another word, both men turned to pack, resigning themselves to their banishment. As they rushed off, Hugh remained behind, a smug grin spreading across his face. Those two were always ganging up to tease him, but now they were being exiled while he stayed behind, and he even had Mabel.

Hugh let out a mischievous chuckle, puffing out his chest like a pint-sized hero. "Don't worry, Paulina! Myles and Aron may be completely unreliable, but fear not—you still have me, the last shining hope of the Fletcher legacy!"

Paulina couldn't help but smile. With a soft laugh, she reached up and tousled his hair. She didn't have the heart to chide him. Hugh was the baby of the bunch, and if he wanted to play the fool, she'd let him.

Later on, across town, Myles and Aron were already on their way to the airport, towing the thoroughly confused driver along with them.

The driver furrowed his brows. "Why do I have to go train in Sundara?"

Myles grinned and teased, "It's a golden opportunity. Mr. Evans wants you to find love in the wilderness. Come back with a bride, and you might even earn a promotion."

Aron laughed. "Better yet, return with a wife and two kids—Mr. Evans might throw you a party."

Meanwhile, Cole remained unaware of the comedic chaos his pride had

triggered. Just as Paulina exited, his phone buzzed.

"Cole," came Manley's voice, casual as ever. "Merlin's finally back in town. Says he wants to get the crew together. Honestly, I think everyone's tired of the Royal Club. Let's switch it up. How about Nightfall tonight?"

Cole had no objections. With work out of the way, he headed off to Nightfall.