

Chapter 617 The One Truly Betrothed

With a steady stream of people passing by, both Quentin and Elliana instinctively kept their voices low.

As they spoke more quietly, their bodies leaned in closer, creating an air of intimacy.

Quentin spoke first. "That night when the Jones house caught fire, I dropped everything and ran over as soon as I heard. I was so worried about you. I caught a glimpse of you smearing something dark on your face."

Not wanting to be misunderstood, he rushed to add, "Please don't take it the wrong way. I have only ever wanted to look out for you. I've never meant any harm. Your secret is completely safe with me."

Elliana didn't know what to say, so she remained silent. Everything she had endured had left her guarded, slow to place trust. Still, there was nothing in Quentin's voice or expression that gave her reason to doubt him.

She lived in fear of misplacing her trust in a hidden enemy and bringing disaster upon herself, but she also hated the thought of pushing away someone who truly cared. Back when they were kids, Quentin had treated her with nothing but kindness. In her recollection, he'd always been kind and decent, at least toward her.

When the quiet stretched, Elliana decided to shift the conversation. "Why are you here today?"

Quentin's answer came with a smile as he nodded toward the registration tables. "I'm here to apply, just like you."

"You also want to get into the Enlightenment Institute?" Elliana's surprise showed. "You're the heir to the Hudson family. You'll be in charge of the entire family business someday. What does any of that have to do with medicine?"



A soft chuckle escaped him. "Medicine was always my first love," he explained. "As a kid, I dreamed of learning from your mother. But my father insisted I go into business, so I followed that path after college. Still, I never let go of what I really wanted. I picked medicine as my minor, and joining the Enlightenment Institute has always been my real ambition."

Elliana nodded, understanding dawning.

Nothing more came to mind for her to say after that. The two of them had once been close as children, but those days felt far away now. It was easy to fall into polite conversation, but anything beyond that felt awkward and out of place.

But Quentin seemed unfazed by the gap. His warm, open presence never wavered. He quietly called her name, "Elliana."

She met his gaze, his features soft and earnest.

In a gentle voice, he said, "Actually, I was the one you were originally betrothed to."

Confusion creased Elliana's forehead. She had no idea what he meant.

Quentin took a patient tone. "Your mother chose me at first. But my father believed it wouldn't be fair to you unless you married the Hudson family heir, so they switched the engagement to Raylan."

A faint smile touched his lips. "And now, I'm the rightful heir to the Hudson family. Life takes some strange turns, doesn't it?"

His words hit hard, leaving Elliana scrambling to make sense of them. Was he really hinting that he wanted to pick up where things left off with her? The idea was almost laughable. That would never happen. If she so much as considered getting back together with Quentin, Cole would lose his mind.

Just picturing Cole's possessive glare made her laugh quietly. "I was once married to Cole," she said simply. "That engagement ended a long time ago."

For a brief moment, Quentin's smile slipped as he dropped his gaze, concealing whatever emotion had surfaced behind his eyes.

She couldn't even guess what was going on in his mind.

But only a moment later, Quentin looked up, his warm, elegant mask perfectly in place, his smile as gentle as ever.

A short distance away, Trinity, surrounded by her entourage, watched Lilah and Quentin, her eyes shooting daggers their way.

Thanks to Wanda's intervention, Trinity had dodged the fallout from the fountain incident, but her last few days had been miserable. Her plan to expose "Lilah's ugly face" had blown up in her own, leaving her humiliated.

To make matters worse, rumors had been flying that both Milton and Cole had taken a liking to Lilah.

For that, Wanda had chewed Trinity out, threatening her within an inch of her life if she ever pulled a stunt like that again.

Now Trinity simmered with jealousy and rage, her frustration growing each day.

She was supposed to be the "It Girl" of Ublento Medical University. With the Evans and Campbell families behind her, she had influence that most could only dream of. Wanda, her older sister, held a professorship at the Enlightenment Institute, and Murray, famous in his own right, had taken her under his wing. All eyes were meant to be on her. She was supposed to outshine her peers.

Instead, all eyes had drifted to Lilah, and Trinity could barely stand it.

"She's such a shameless flirt," one of Trinity's friends muttered. "She stole the spotlight at the ceremony, has Milton and Cole wrapped around her finger, and now she's hanging onto Quentin! Who knows how many guys she's leading on?"

"Let's catch her in the act and blast it all over the school forum," another girl whispered. "That'll destroy her reputation for good."

Trinity wasn't interested in their plan. Not fully. Wanda's warning still echoed in her mind, and the thought of openly going against Wanda was out of the question.

Even so, Trinity had no intention of letting Lilah bask in the spotlight. She

< Chapter 617 The One Truly Betrothed



+120 Points at most

might not be able to do much in front of Milton, but Cole was another story.

With a sly grin, Trinity snapped a picture of Lilah and Quentin leaning close and sent it straight into the Evans family group chat.



Our ads aim to provide better support for authors.

