

Blind Date 161

[Chapter 161](#)

Helping Out

The man seemed to notice Josie as she turned away. He pushed Claire into the car and walked toward where Josie was hiding. The sound of his footsteps gradually came near.

Josie closed her eyes and thought she would cause a commotion and run if he came too close. However, as the man was about to reach her hiding place, a big hand covered her mouth, causing her to widen her eyes in shock. Then, she saw a figure appearing from her side.

The person's face gradually came into view. It was Arnold.

He wore a suit and a pair of leather shoes, making it seem like he was here for business matters. His face seemed intimidatingly cold when he was not smiling. He glanced at her and pulled her behind him.

Then, he walked out of the hiding spot toward the man, behaving like he was only passing by.

"Mr. Yves?"

The middle-aged man, who was called Phil Yves, instantly relaxed his expression. He was confused briefly before recognizing Arnold. "Is that you, Mr. Carter? What brings you here?" Phil immediately extended his hand for a handshake.

Arnold played with car keys in his hands before shaking Phil's hand. "I came to the hospital for a checkup. I thought you seemed familiar but couldn't recall who you were. Then, I realized it's you, Mr. Yves."

Phil smiled even wider than before. He let down his guard and said, "It's me who should have recognized you sooner. I didn't expect to see you here, Mr. Carter. We have only met briefly before this. I'm honored that you remember me."

Arnold walked past him and looked at the Mercedes Benz. "You're doing pretty well."

He smirked and continued, "Russell Group must have paid you handsomely."

Phil suddenly appeared awkward. "It's still okay."

"What brings you to the hospital, Mr. Yves."

"Oh... I came here with a relative. It's also for a health checkup."

Arnold nodded politely and seemed no longer interested in the conversation. He retreated and said Anyway I'll take my leave first.

Phil nodded, eager to be on Arnold's good side. He watched Arnold leave. Then, he stood on his toes to look more closely, ensuring he did not miss anything.

I don't think Mr. Carter is the kind of person who would hide someone like her. I must have been mistaken.

Soon, Phil entered his Mercedes Benz and left the car park. Josie finally breathed a sigh of relief. She did not expect Arnold to show up suddenly or that he would help her. She said worriedly, "That... That man is the manager of Russell Group's human resource department!"

Arnold stood relaxed against the car door. "I know."

Josie was suddenly stumped. There was something even more unbelievable that she could not discuss with him, such as why Phil and Claire were together. Are Mr. Yves and Claire a couple? But Russell Group prohibits office romance. Furthermore, Claire committed many crimes. Since they are a couple, could Mr. Yves be involved in my car accident?

I need to find out about this.

Josie desperately wished that Dexter was with her and not Arnold.

"Ms. Warren, even though we didn't team up, I still helped you. Aren't you going to thank me?" Arnold playfully tapped on his car.

"Thank you." Josie woke up from her thoughts. "Unfortunately, I have to deal with urgent matters, Mr. Carter. Let's chat another time."

She immediately tried to run to chase after the car, but an arm blocked her way. "Get in my car."

Josie pursed her lips.

Arnold liked to show off and loved driving sports cars. His blue Maserati attracted much attention as it cruised on the road. Josie sat stiffly in the front passenger seat. She recalled that Dexter preferred to keep a low profile and drove a Porsche for work matters. He would only drive a sports car in his personal time.

Arnold sped up and soon caught up with Phil's Mercedes Benz. Josie was surprised. "Mr. Carter, how do you know they are on this road?"

Arnold turned the steering wheel and did not answer her question. "Can you call me Arnold?"

[Chapter 162](#)

Call Him Arnold

Josie gulped and replied, "That's... inappropriate."

The Mercedes Benz stopped at the traffic light ahead. Josie was anxious, but Arnold appeared relaxed. "Mr. Russell also calls me Arnold. So how is that inappropriate?"

Josie laughed and replied, "Mr. Carter, stop joking with me. I'm not in the same league as Mr. Russell."

"I won't pursue the car unless you call my name." The light turned green. Arnold touched the steering wheel and whistled a tune, refusing to drive.

Josie panicked when she saw the Mercedes Benz traveling out of sight. She had no choice but to submit to his request. "Arnold! Arnold! Chase that car!"

Arnold smiled gleefully and stepped on the accelerator. He asked, "Why did you go to the hospital alone? Aren't you worried something could happen to you?"

Josie thought his question was strange, but she was too focused on the car ahead to think about it. "Didn't you also go to the hospital alone?"

She suddenly sensed something was wrong and turned to him curiously. "Is something wrong with your health?"

"You seem to wish something is wrong with me." Arnold leaned into his seat.

Josie was surprised by his reply and immediately denied it. She grew more curious as she observed him more. He not only had wealth and prestige but was exceptionally handsome and had impeccable good taste. It was hard to imagine him being so in love and devoted to a

Woman.

Summer must be beautiful.

For some reason, Phil did not find it strange that Arnold's car followed him or attempted to shake off Arnold's car. Instead, he drove onto a main road, where Josie noticed more luxury cars. It felt like they had entered a different world.

Josie was curious. "What is this place?"

Arnold did not answer her but sped up. "Do you want me to go alongside the car?"

He seemed to understand what Josie was thinking. "Yes."

Unlock succeeded

succceededared

peared Phil's, Josie hid below the car window and raised camera lens at the Mercedes Benz's front seats and manned

Then, she enlarged the photo on her phone and found Claire in it. "It's really her..."

Phil's Mercedes Benz entered a racecourse's parking lot. Phil then exited the car with a stack of documents, while Claire remained in the car alone.

Josie got up from hiding with some difficulty and looked outside. She discovered that all the luxury cars she saw on the road were now parked there. Thus, she guessed this was a grand racecourse exclusive for wealthy men.

She considered briefly before opening her chat with Dexter to send him the photo she had taken. Suddenly, a voice sounded beside her. "Why does an ordinary employee have Dexter's personal number? How strange."

Arnold spoke flatly. It sounded like he knew the answer but still brought up the question to see her response.

Josie replied awkwardly, "It's... for work. It's easier to communicate with Mr. Russell this way."

Arnold grunted as if he understood her. "But why not report to Ms. Miller? What kind of work requires you to report to him directly?"

Then, he paused briefly before continuing, "Could your task be acting as his wife?"

'Thud. The phone slipped from Josie's hand and fell on her foot. It was so painful that she could hardly breathe.

Arnold had a domineering presence. It was impossible to hide from him. Moreover, he seemed to know everything, so she could not feign ignorance or refuse to answer.

It seemed she would be in trouble no matter what she did.

After a moment, Arnold bent over and helped her pick up the phone. He waved it at her and chuckled. "You dropped your phone. Shouldn't you pick it up?"

Josie gulped and took the phone immediately. "Thank you."

He gripped the phone securely and did not let her take it. "Do you want to confront that woman?"

[Chapter 163](#)

Her Turn to Help

Josie was stunned. Does he want to see me fight with Claire?

"Erm, I don't have my bodyguard today. I'm too weak to fight her."

Arnold glanced at her phone and realized it was an old model that came out many years ago. There were a few cracks on the screen. It seemed Josie was a frugal person. "Why are you scared? Aren't I here? It will be two against one. We can easily win."

Josie did not dare to cause trouble, especially when Dexter was not around. Moreover, she was with Arnold, a man of dubious intentions. "Forget it. It's the company's internal matter. I better investigate it further."

She forcefully snatched her phone back and discovered there was no reception. It meant her photo was not sent out. She had no choice but to request Arnold to turn on his mobile hotspot. It was embarrassing.

Then, she pursed her lips and considered before saying, "Mr. Carter, you're overthinking. I only desire to do my best for Russell Group and have zero interest in being Mr. Russell's wife. Please don't get me into trouble with Mr. Russell. I don't want to lose my job."

She spoke sincerely. Her words sounded like something any employee would say.

Arnold smiled slightly upon hearing her and became interested in her expression.

"Mr. Carter?" She could not figure out the meaning behind his smile.

"Arnold," Arnold corrected.

Josie was rendered speechless. Suddenly, Phil came out of the racecourse and no longer the documents. He quickly entered his car and sped away, leaving the place with Claire.

Josie saw Arnold sitting still and asked tentatively, "Should we leave? You can drop me by the road, and I'll get a taxi to send me home." What bad luck. Why do I always get into some unexpected situation whenever I bump into him?

However, Arnold unlocked the doors and exited the car. "I helped you. It's now your turn to help me."

Josie soon found herself being led ahead by his arm around her shoulder. She sensed she would be dragged into some conspiracy. "I can't ride a horse."

"I'll teach you."

he racecourse was around the size of two soccer fields. Usually, o

get in, but a uniformed staff rushed over upon seeing Arnold. He opened the door and greeted respectfully, "Good to see you, Mr. Carter Junior."

Josie could not resist her curiosity and whispered, "Why did they call you Mr. Carter Junior?"

"Have you considered that maybe I have a father?"

Oh, so that's why.

They entered a car arranged for them and sped toward their location. The driver said, "Mr. Carter, Mr. Russell has been waiting for some time."

Mr. Russell? Did he mean Dexter Russell? He's here?

Josie panicked when she pieced together that they would be meeting Dexter. She gripped Arnold's wrist. "What's the meaning of this?"

No wonder he knew where Mr. Yves would be going. He is supposed to meet Dexter here.

Arnold was slightly astonished by her reaction but soon became curious. "Why are you so afraid of him? It's not like he can do anything to you."

That's not the issue. The problem is what he will think when seeing me show up with another man. It will be hard to explain.

"I'm Russell Group's employee. It will be unseemly if I keep being seen hanging out with the head of Carter Group. Mr. Carter, please understand my situation and let me out of the car," Josie forced herself to explain despite being on the verge of tears.

"Hanging out. I like this word." Arnold grabbed her hand and said, "You showed different sides of yourself to Dexter. Sometimes you behaved submissively and acted cute to coax him. Other times, you seemed rational and serious. Yet, you always behaved professionally with me."

"However, your progress is too slow. I can help you to speed up your growth when required. Do you wish to try?"

Josie could not understand what he was talking about and was not interested. She desperately wanted to jump out of the car.

[Chapter 164](#)

Won Her Heart

Arnold refused to let her go. He held her hand as he walked toward the center of the racecourse.

The racecourse kept many pure breed horses. Josie glanced at the horses' lustrous coats and knew they were easily worthed at least ten times more than her.

Dexter rode a pure-breed Ferghana horse and galloped in the middle of the racecourse. He wore a denim jacket and tucked the hem of his pants into his leather riding boots. His slim figure and fitting clothes made him appear even taller than usual. His horse galloped fast and moved like a wind across the grassy ground.

Dexter suddenly pulled the rein as he sensed people approaching him. The horse obeyed him immediately and stopped. He looked heroic sitting atop the horse.

Josie desperately wished the ground would swallow her when he looked down in her direction.

She tried to pull her hand away, but Arnold stubbornly refused to let go. He raised his chin and commented, "Dexter, your horse-riding skills improved again."

Dexter did not get off the horse but looked at Josie, standing beside Arnold. "Arnold, I see you brought my employee. Where did you find her?"

Josie heard his sarcastic tone and rushed to explain, "I met Mr. Carter at the hospital. It was a coincidence."

Arnold held her hand tightly. "You forgot again. Didn't I say to call me Arnold?"

Josie cautiously observed Dexter's expression. His gaze darkened like a stormy sky before. calming down. Then, he got off the horse and smiled cryptically while removing his gloves. "Arnold, I had no idea you managed to woo my employee in mere few days."

Josie was unable to say anything.

A racecourse staff led a horse to Arnold. Arnold patted the horse's mane and said, "That's not true. I've always been sincere with my feelings toward women, but I'm always the one to get dumped. Otherwise, I wouldn't still be single now."

He glanced at Josie suggestively after saying that.

Josie could not bring herself to laugh. She sensed Arnold was hinting about Summer.

Thats their problem. However, knowing you, no one can force you to do

int tout believe I understood you pretty well Dexter accepted aw

the staff and drank a few mouthfuls. His Adam's apple trembled alluringly as he swallowed.

Arnold climbed onto his horse and extended his hand toward Josie. "In that case, you seem to have forgotten something. Those who understand my character do not end well."

Josie did not accept his hand and shook her head. "My arm is still injured. I can't ride."

"Arnold is a good rider. He is especially good at subduing a rogue horse. You should experience it." Dexter sounded in a good mood.

She stared at him with shock and fear. She had never ridden a horse, especially a rogue one.

Arnold smirked and said, "Come up here. Don't worry. I won't let you get hurt."

The staff helped her put on wrist and knee guards. Thus, Josie had no choice but to get on the horse. Arnold secured her in his embrace and hugged her gently, resting his chin on her shoulders. Then, he taught her basic riding techniques and spoke to her affectionately.

Josie did not dare to look at Dexter's expression. She felt a chill down her spine.

Meanwhile, Dexter was feeding his horse. "I haven't seen him for some time. His appetite has grown a lot. It seems no amount of food could satisfy him."

Arnold replied, "A rogue horse can never be fully tamed. Its appetite will become more voracious as it grows. You should be prepared."

"Unfortunately, I'm afraid he will be blinded by his appetite and greed, biting off more than he can chew."

"When there's a will, there's a way." Arnold gripped the rein tightly, prompting the horse to neigh. Josie was frightened by the noise and felt her heart in her throat. Then, Arnold asked, "Dexter, we haven't competed for a long time. What about racing one round?"

[Chapter 165](#)

Horse Racing

Dexter's expression was ambiguous. Suddenly, he smirked and said, "Sure, let's see if you have slacked off on your skills."

Josie's back broke out in cold sweat. Dexter owned this racecourse. He would have no problem riding well. However, Josie had never been on a horse before this. She feared what would happen to her if Arnold insisted on competing with Dexter.

Thankfully, Arnold had mercy and did not begin the race immediately. He embraced her securely and guided the horse to walk a few rounds so that she could get used to the movements. At the same time, he said to Dexter, "I heard Leo went to Rivodia. Initially, I thought he would stand firm on his principle. Who knew he would give in eventually?"

Dexter sat straight on the back of his horse. "If he still hasn't learned to lay low and bide his time, he should stop telling people that he regarded me as his older brother for years."

Arnold smiled. "Lay low and bid his time? Aren't you worried he could turn into a wolf and attack you one day?"

"Arnold, a weak puppy can never turn into a wolf. Don't you agree?" Dexter's gaze seemed to hint at something. He glanced at Josie and smiled slightly.

Meanwhile, Josie was on high alert and focused on staying on the horse. She hated the feeling of being dangled in the air.

Arnold noticed her nervousness and taught her to adjust her posture when pulling. They seemed intimate as their hands touched. "I had a meeting with Carter Group's management yesterday.

Everyone tried to convince me to give up on purchasing Lan. They seemed to think Russell Group is guaranteed to win."

"I have no power to instruct them to do that. You misunderstood."

Seeing Josie was less nervous, Arnold looked at Dexter and replied, "Of course, I trust the people on my side. However, I wonder if you can trust anyone in Russell Group."

Dexter's smile gradually faded. At the same time, Arnold hugged Josie tightly and pulled the rein. "Let's begin."

Two horses stood before the starting line. The horse trainer stood at the side and counted. From three to one. The two horses shot forward like arrows, leaving clouds of dust in the air and loud noises of hooves on the ground.

Josie closed her eyes and felt the strong wind on her face. She could only hold the rein with.

andrar no sense of security. The horse moved so fast that be remote in tear it felt like she would get thrown off at any secr

"Josie, control your breathing and open your eyes." Arnold's calm voice sounded by her ear.

They were so close that Josie could smell his special perfume. The fragrance was a mix of lilies and roses blended with the unique scent of his masculine pheromone. He secured her tightly in his embrace so that she would not move.

Josie worked hard to calm down and opened her eyes to see Dexter riding ahead. His form was mesmerizing and powerful. Dust filled the air as he rode past. He reminded her of a commander returning from a victorious battle.

His horse galloped fast and soon left them behind. Dexter even had time to glance behind. him and met Josie's gaze, oppressing her with his domineering presence.

"Don't space out during such a crucial moment?" Arnold's voice woke Josie from her daze. He sneered and continued, "Seems like you're no longer afraid."

"No..." Josie could barely say one word before Arnold suddenly sped up. He caught up with Dexter and turned to him, shouting, "Dexter, I'm going to overtake you!"

Dexter smirked and hit his horse with a riding whip. His horse neighed loudly and charged madly ahead, putting a considerable distance between them.

Josie was stunned. Dexter's horse was startled and galloped wildly on the racecourse. Yet, he could control it.

[Chapter 166](#)

I Like Your Beauty Spot

The horse trainer shouted urgently. "Mr. Russell! Stop!"

Josie opened her mouth in shock and looked at Dexter. His horse had galloped off the course.

Arnold slowed down and asked casually, "Are you worried?"

Josie sat stiffly. "No...."

Then, Arnold held her hands tightly and chuckled. "Are you aware that your body language doesn't lie? Moreover, we are sitting so close that I can know your thoughts."

His words annoyed Josie, prompting her to retort, "It's because I'm nervous."

"Let's stop here." Arnold did not care who won the race and let his horse slow down. "Don't worry. Dexter has years of experience in taming horses. He will be fine."

Accidents can always happen. Josie gulped worriedly and recalled the news she had seen. I read that people became disabled after falling off a horse. I can't find Dexter anywhere. What should I do?

"Arnold, why did you do that for?" Josie did not hide her annoyance and scolded, "You knew you could never win with me on the horse. Why did you insist on a race with him? You even goaded him. Look at what you've done! What if something happened to him?"

Arnold laughed upon hearing her. "What are you saying? Do you think it was deliberate? I have no reason to do that."

It's because of Summer! Josie clenched her teeth furiously but could not say anything.

"Let me down!"

"Don't move." Arnold leaned to the side and looked at her face before rubbing his fingertips against her skin. "There's dust."

Josie forgot to breathe as he leaned close. He looked at her charmingly and said, "I like the beauty spot under your eye. It's pretty."

Josie came to her senses and hit him with her arm. "I want to get down from the horse!"

Arnold did not stop her this time. The horse trainer stepped forward to unfasten the straps holding her to the saddle and helped her off the horse.

heart come finally calm down once her feet touched the ground. Unlock succeeded

roumans and asked. "Where's Mr. Russell? Is he not back yet? Have you

A neigh sounded right after her questions. She looked as far as she could and found Dexter returning on his horse. His horse galloped fast, but he did not seem nervous and let it gallop toward Josie.

He's all right! That's wonderful!

Josie smiled, but the joy in her eyes gradually disappeared as she realized the horse was charging in her direction. Dexter's expression was cold and emotionless. He also made no move to steer the horse away. It seemed he was targeting her.

Josie stepped back but did not have time to react otherwise. Her pupils widened with shock.

As the horse was about to reach Josie, Arnold jumped off his horse and dashed to her. He grabbed her waist and rolled them out of the way. Josie cried out in pain.

Meanwhile, Dexter suddenly pulled the rein and steered the horse in another direction, narrowly avoiding where Josie stood. He noticed the two people in a tight embrace on the ground.

Arnold let Josie fall on him and used his body to cushion her fall.

Josie coughed and was still flustered from what had happened. On the other hand, Arnold tucked stray strands of Josie's hair behind her ears and asked, "Are you hurt?"

Josie shook her head and stood up immediately. "Thank you..."

Arnold propped his head on his arm and sneered, "Dexter, you haven't changed. You're still harsh to the ladies."

Dexter got off the horse and handed the rein to the horse trainer. "Bring it to the vet. It injured its legs."

"Yes, sir."

Seeing that Dexter did not respond, Arnold turned to Josie and said, "Look at him. You can't rely on Mr. Russell. If you want someone you can lean on and protect, I suggest you choose me."

[Chapter 167](#)

Let Her Be Your Assistant

Josie was also confused by Dexter's action. She could not understand why he did it. If Arnold did not save her, that horse would have collided with her and killed her.

Dexter remained cold and indifferent as he brushed the dust off his clothes. Then, he smiled vaguely, "Did you hear that? Arnold treats women like queens. It's not bad for you to follow him. Once, he held an engagement ceremony in Carter Group to court a woman. It was an enviable sight."

Arnold's expression changed visibly as Dexter spoke. His smile was not as easygoing as before. "Dexter is jealous of me. I've dated many women, but he's alone all these years. I wonder who will get married first."

Josie's heart skipped a beat. She sensed there was a deeper meaning to his words.

Meanwhile, Dexter removed his riding clothes and put on his coat, ignoring Arnold.

However, Arnold refused to give up. "Dexter, I like this employee of yours. Can I have her as my assistant? I had many assistants before, but they are not as innocent and soothing as this lovely lady."

"Since you already have Ivy as your assistant, I guess it won't affect you much if you lose such a junior employee."

"That's no problem at all." Dexter turned to the side and looked at Josie as he walked past Arnold. "You should ask her yourself if you truly want her."

Josie felt threatened by his intimidating gaze and said, "I'm honored to have a chance to work for Mr. Carter."

Dexter smirked and touched the roof of his mouth with the tip of his tongue. He did not reveal his thoughts about her response. Instead, he said, "In that case, you should follow Mr. Carter home."

He strode toward the exit after saying that. Josie's heart clenched as she watched him leave.

Suddenly, Arnold stepped in front of her and blocked her sight of Dexter. He smiled and said, "Seems like you have to come home with me today."

Josie returned to the Maserati and sat in the front passenger seat in a daze. She rubbed her fingers on her phone and pondered over the matter. That's just great. Not only did I forget to tell him about Claire and Phil. I even got myself into more trouble.

you Thinking? It was now evening. The light from the set Unlock succeeded Arnett with colorful hues. His side profile reminded Josie of a fund

You're wondering why Dexter tried to crash his horse into you."

Arnold correctly guessed what Josie was thinking, but she refused to admit it. "I was wondering whether you will send me home."

Arnold was surprised by her response. "Don't you know women all over Wavery desire to share my bed?"

"I know." Josie took a deep breath before continuing. "But I think you're a righteous. gentleman. You won't behave inappropriately with someone like me."

"A righteous gentleman? Who told. you this?"

"Rumors say you pulled all stops to pursue a woman in the past. I feel I can trust such a dedicated man," Josie replied, choosing her words carefully.

Arnold sneered and drove the car to the ground floor of Carter Group building. "Did Dexter tell you this?"

Josie shook her head slowly.

"You don't have to hide. After all, I have never hidden anything from you." Arnold exited the car and opened the door for Josie. "Furthermore, you've guessed incorrectly. I'm not a righteous gentleman."

Josie looked at Carter Group's sign and asked, "Where are you bringing me?"

It seemed every president had a lounge in their office. However, Arnold's lounge was in a completely different style from Dexter's. Moreover, there were all kinds of alcoholic drinks in the room. It was a dazzling sight.

Arnold poured a glass of red wine and swirled it. "I'm serious about what I offered, Josie. Do you want to join Carter Group? You don't have to work as an undercover."

[Chapter 168](#)

Jealousy

The frustration in Josie's heart grew the longer she remained in this place. She placed a hand on the bar table and fluttered her lashes. "Mr. Carter, do you think I'm beautiful?"

Arnold laughed and answered, "Honestly, you're still quite some way from being considered beautiful."

Josie dropped all her charming act and appeared annoyed. "Why do you want me then? I'm only an unassuming commoner. I have nothing of value, not even beauty. All I have is my life."

Arnold smiled cryptically and drank a mouthful of wine. Then, he stood behind her and slowly fed her the rest of the wine in the glass. "Honestly, I'm not interested in you, but Dexter cares about you, and that piques my interest."

He is a freak. Josie choked on the wine and coughed, pressing her hand to her chest. Her mouth was filled with the taste of alcohol.

"Why do you want to snatch something belonging to him? Is it because the woman you loved fell in love with him?" She blurted without thinking.

Arnold raised his eyebrows and smiled. "I didn't expect you to know about this."

Josie coughed and considered how she could explain when Arnold's phone rang. He did not want to answer the call but saw the attached message and knew he had no choice but to answer it.

Arnold frowned and walked out of the lounge to take the call.

Josie breathed a sigh of relief and was temporarily freed from his oppressive aura. She dropped herself on the couch and looked at the view outside the floor-to-ceiling window. At this moment, she realized that Carter Group was exactly opposite Russell Group.

What should I do now? Do I really have to spend the night here?

But how am I to face Dexter if I return to Mason Garden? Her mind replayed scenes of him charging at her on his horse.

Josie could never forget his gaze. It was cold and emotionless. That was enough reason for her to believe he wanted to kill her.

She felt sad as she thought about this.

and took red

time to answer the call. He left for so long Suddenly she heard someone knocking on the door. She ran to get the door. "It's your lounge. Why are you knocking....."

Josie abruptly fell silent when she saw the man standing before her.

"Dexter?"

Her tone was filled with surprise.

Dexter held a cigarette between his fingers and stared at the red stain on the corner of her mouth. He did not utter a word to her.

Josie could not stand the prolonged silence and gave in. She felt oddly guilty as she asked, "How do you know I'm here?"

Dexter's gaze instantly darkened. He stepped into the lounge, stared at the empty wine glass, and snorted. "I have to applaud your resourcefulness. You always know to find yourself a protector. Not many women are as lucky as you."

His sarcastic words dispelled any sense of guilt Josie had. She raised her chin and refused to back down. "You're right. Since you abandoned me, I had no choice but to find another man."

Dexter immediately gripped her chin and leaned close to her face. "Why did you make it sound like I'm mistreating you? Josie, haven't I warned you to know your place? Don't you dare dream otherwise!"

Josie refused to give in. Her eyes glimmered with determination as she retorted, "Really? And let myself die trampled by your horse?"

Josie felt like she had released a burden after finally voicing her grievance. She awaited. Dexter's response with anticipation.

Dexter did not let the matter go and answered confidently, "Even if Arnold didn't help you, I would never let the horse collide with you."

Tears fell from the corner of her eyes. "Would you? That horse had gone mad. You probably wouldn't be able to control it."

[Chapter 169](#)

Betrayal

"I would have controlled the horse!"

Josie's tears fell onto the back of Dexter's hand. It felt hot on his skin and thawed his heart.

Dexter furrowed his brow and seemed angry.

Josie was unsure what he was annoyed about, but she guessed it wasn't only about what happened on the racecourse. Furthermore, he behaved indifferently to her the whole day. disheartening her.

She turned away and said, "You're right. I should know my place. I've already received your favor, so I shouldn't expect more. Don't worry. I won't join Arnold's side."

Dexter made her face him, demanding, "You were drinking with him. Did you share the same glass?"

"That's right." Josie could not resist goading Dexter. Her heart was filled with grievances against him.

Dexter sneered indifferently and placed the cigarette between his lips. The glowing cigarette lent a threatening gleam to his gaze, intimidating Josie. He blew puffs of smoke to her face, obscuring her vision. Suddenly, he let her go and tossed the cigarette in the trash can before going to the bar counter. Then, he reached under it and pulled out something before doing the same to the edge of the couch and the bathroom door.

Josie was confused and watched him throw the things he pulled out onto the floor and crush them under his feet. He locked the lounge door after that.

Josie could not help but be afraid of Dexter at this moment. She retreated from him. "What are you doing? This is Arnold's place."

"So?" He unfastened his tie. "Arnold had no qualms installing listening devices in his lounge. No one understands his distrustfulness as much as I do. I can't let him listen to what I will do next."

Josie took a deep breath and touched the table to support herself. Night breeze rippled the air and fluttered her skirt, revealing her smooth and fair legs.

Dexter's breath grew heavier. He sneered, "You showed up at the racecourse and ruined my plan."

Josie shook her head. "I saw Claire at the hospital. She was there with Mr. Yves, the human resource department manager. Moreover, she is pregnant. I wouldn't have been able to tell you if Article had not appeared then."

If she had known what Phil would do afterward, she would have risked everything and fought him.

Dexter furrowed his brow. He had no idea about the things Josie said. "Why didn't you inform me earlier?"

"How could I tell you? Arnold was beside me, and my phone signal was cut due to outstanding fees. I couldn't message you," Josie felt anxious and explained hurriedly.

Dexter sat down and lit another cigarette. He smoked to calm his fury.

Josie noticed his fierce expression and pursed her lips. "Did something happen?"

"He went against me."

It took her a while to understand what he meant. "Isn't he... the manager of the human resource department?"

“Two of the elite talents he poached were involved in this acquisition project. They ran off with important documents this afternoon.”

Dexter was a charismatic man. Even as he sat there quietly with an expression of fury and gloom, one could not help but be attracted to him.

Since he knew about these, it meant everything had been exposed. Josie suddenly recalled what Arnold had said about helping him and finally understood what he meant.

Moreover, he hinted at the racecourse that Dexter should not trust the people in Russell Group.

It turned out Arnold was using Josie to buy time.

Josie was suddenly ridden with guilt. Landon acquisition project was important to Dexter. They thought their success was guaranteed after the fall of the Ardon family. No one expected the enemies to cause more trouble.

Josie went to the couch and sat down. “I’m sorry. I didn’t know about all this. All I knew was that Mr. Yves and Claire worked together and acted against me. I didn’t expect there to be more than that.”

[Chapter 170](#)

Their Second Kiss

Dexter looked at her through the clouds of smoke. “He sent me documents this morning but altered the information in it. Do you know about this?”

Josie shook her head. “I saw him bringing documents to the racecourse, but I didn’t know what they were or that he went to see you.”

Dexter nodded upon hearing her and smirked. “I didn’t expect Arnold to resort to such a trick.”

Josie was stunned. Arnold always appeared playful and unserious. Who would have known he was such a devious and scheming person?

“Where is he? Aren’t you worried he will come in?” They were now in Arnold’s lounge, yet Dexter behaved like he was home.

“He’s going overseas. He should be on the way to the airport.”

Josie was amazed at how nonchalant Dexter sounded. She suspected he would never let someone trick him without paying back in kind.

Dexter snuffed the cigarette. “You no longer have a protector now that he’s gone. Are you disappointed?”

Josie clenched her hands. “I never wanted him to be my protector.”

Dexter regarded her indifferently before suddenly holding her wrist and embracing her. “You lied so much. When were you ever truthful?”

Josie could not move. Her long hair pooled messily on his arm. The warm and soft strands awakened something in his heart.

"Everything I've told you is the truth."

He tightened his grip on her waist and turned her over, trapping her in the corner of the couch. Their hips touched.

Josie was overwhelmed by his presence. When she finally found her bearing, he pressed her down again and rested his chin on her shoulder, breathing against her ear.

"You seemed so innocent and docile before Arnold this morning."

Josie struggled to retort to his mockery. "Mr. Russell, your acting skill is quite exceptional

Strice you agreed to give me to Arnold, why did you chase me to eaner

She wouldn't stand a chance against Arnold if I didn't show up.

Dexter pressed his cold lips on her soft cheek. He gradually moved his lips downward as he spoke. "You dare to say this to me after making me abandon my principle. You should take back your words."

Josie felt uncomfortably warm all over her body. She looked up at Dexter and smelled his clean scent. "Dexter..."

His hands caressed upwards from her waist, causing her mind to go blank briefly. She heard Dexter's voice. "You're more charming in this state."

He enveloped her in his embrace. She only needed to turn her head slightly to kiss his lips.

Dexter seemed to have suppressed his desire for a long time. He trembled as passion burned like a raging flame within him.

"I was thinking. I wonder if I have what it takes to entice you." Josie suddenly became brave and sat astride on his lap. She wrapped her arms around his neck and leaned down to kiss

him.

Dexter's body immediately stiffened even more.

"Seems like I do." Josie bit his lips gently before kissing him again. She coaxed him to part his lips and slipped her tongue in, gradually heightening their kisses. "Dexter, your lips are soft. No matter how harsh your words are, your lips remain soft. I've tested it just now."

The veins on Dexter's forehead throbbed violently. He could not look away from her alluring form, taking in her every expression.

Suddenly, he hugged her waist and returned her kisses. He kissed her harder, deeper, and more aggressively than she did.

"How dare you." Dexter tasted the red wine in her mouth and kissed her intensely. He soon wiped out all traces of red wine and filled her mouth with his tobacco smell. There was only his mark left on her body.

After kissing for three minutes, their breaths grew heavy, and they seemed on the cusp of advancing to the next stage. Josie sensed that Dexter was losing control of his desire. She held his hands to stop him from unbuttoning her shirt. "We can't do it here."