

## **Blind Date 191**

### [Chapter 191](#)

Relearning to Drive

The traffic police stood transfixed at the cold yet regal silhouette. A surge of familiarity flashed through. They were determined to piece up the fragments, only to be met with another futile attempt.

What a dazzling surprise.

It was a pleasure meeting Dexter Russell, the president of Russell Group.

The person's legs trembled, yearning to sink into the depths of the muddy ground. Their face blanched with panic as their once arrogant facade crumbled gradually.

He had just received a phone call from his father's assistant, delivering nothing but bad news. The assistant exclaimed furiously, "You rascal! Your grandpa is sick, and the whole house is in shambles because of you!"

The Internet did not show any mercy too.

The dashcam footage leaked by an unknown source caused a digital uproar. Even with Josie and Dexter's conversation edited, it was akin to the infamous 'I'm Mr. Lane's Dad' incident, thus fuelling widespread outrage.

Is this what it's like to be rich and powerful?

Do fathers and sons often share similar personalities?

Would they look into this and find out what happened?

It had caused such a huge commotion, and if they didn't take it seriously, it only made matters worse.

When they thought things couldn't get any worse, another scandal broke out. It was as if destiny had conspired to expose the dark secrets of the Davidson family, leaving them teetering on the edge of their undoing.

The relentless onslaught of condemnation had cast an overcast in a harrowing nightmare.

As a businessman, Dexter Russell was strongly advised to steer clear of politics, though. bringing down a corrupt official was simple with such incriminating evidence.

Josie was unaware that the entire family was overwhelmed by despair and desolation.

In the warmth of the car.

Unlock succeeded

at h

with your hair?"

Dexter's fingers traced through the split strands of her soft and silky hair.

Frustration rose as he exclaimed, "Why didn't you say anything just now!"

The crash was not as severe as expected.

Josie lightly brushed her cheek, blinked, and deflected, "Who could have possibly thought about that at that time?"

He scoffed, frustrations lingering as he stood by her side, and Josie's patience wore thin with the two of them alone.

"You could've told me earlier that you didn't bring your driver's license, you know?"

He wouldn't have let her drive alone if he knew she didn't have a license.

Josie's irritation heightened as she glanced down at her hair. "Why should I have bothered telling you?" she retorted.

As she replied, he struggled to contain his anger and frustration.

In the aftermath of their argument the previous night, silence prevailed.

Dexter drove to Southbridge silently, staying focused on the road despite the ensuing tension.

As he pulled the handbrake and prepared to exit the car, Dexter broke the silence and asserted, "We'll have to reschedule the driving lessons for another day."

Her driving skills were commendable.

However, driving was off-limits until she reacquired the necessary skills.

Josie shot him fiercely.

"Glaring at me won't change anything, I'm afraid."

Grandpa was startled when he saw Josie returning in a disheveled state. "What happened to you?" he exclaimed as he hurried towards her.

She never failed to make a fool of herself in front of the elderly.

"No big deal, and I'm perfectly fine," she meekly insisted as she glanced cautiously at Grandpa.

Grandpa did not press on further and tenderly offered a cup of warm water instead. "Here, The hot bath's ready for you to shower."

## [Chapter 192](#)

Two Lives, Different Destinies

Josie gently brushed her hair.

Dexter swiftly glided in front of her, leaning in with a faint smile and teased, "Now, you realize how embarrassing this is."

Silence.

Grandpa struck Dexter and glared at him menacingly. "Get out now!" Grandpa growled.

Josie couldn't help but burst into a sudden fit of laughter but quickly turned to a grimace as she took a sip of her scalding hot drink. She immediately felt the burning sensation spread throughout her mouth and promptly covered her lips with her hand, hoping to alleviate the pain.

Dexter shot her another intense glare.

As she soaked in the warm bath, she felt peaceful and calm. All the outside world's noise faded away, and she became aware of Dexter's presence. The warmth of his palm, the tenderness of his voice, and the compassion in his eyes made her feel at ease.

Engulfed by the misty warmth, she shut her tired eyes.

She found solace in the soothing steam.

Josie was surprised to see Dexter standing outside with a worried look on his face while she was still in her towel. He gestured towards her with a pair of scissors, saying, "Let me help fix this for you."

Dexter became slightly annoyed when Josie hesitated, but she eventually declined his offer to help.

He had genuinely intended to cut her hair.

Josie found herself at a loss for words, feeling confined by the frigid and stagnant atmosphere.

He cupped her ears and said hoarsely, "Stay still!"

She froze, only to find her voice after what seemed like an eternity. "Thank you for today. I'll make it up for the losses," she muttered.

"How on earth do you plan to do that?" he scoffed.

Unlock succeeded

ind out from Ivy tomorrow how much those two damaged car

Silence ensued.

"I understand that your financial situation may be constrained, so I guess this little setback won't make much of a difference to you."

Josie was speechless.

Exasperated with his constant belittling, she raised her head high and spoke with unwavering conviction, "Allow me to make myself abundantly clear. I am me, and you are you. We are not the same."

Dexter's face stiffened, and he continued to mock her. "And what can you do, Josie? Can you honestly say you can bear the losses? The car accidents were my fault, after all. Where's your beloved husband? Did he leave you here to deal with the damages? Is this a joke?"

Josie was dumbfounded.

Wait, did he say husband?

Josie remained unfazed by his relentless criticism. Suddenly, she felt a gentle hug from behind, and her back tingled with warmth.

As night crept in, the room was shrouded in darkness.

Josie's voice croaked as her eyes looked away, "Hey, we're still in the middle of a fight."

"Why did you come to me when things went wrong today?"

Josie arched her back, but she struggled to find words. Her eyes wandered, and she couldn't help but wonder why she had reached out to him.

Was it because it was his car?

No wait.

He pulled her in closer.

Seeing Josie standing alone out there made him feel a deep desire to protect her from the world's harshness.

As he reflected on his recent behavior towards her, he began to feel a sense of remorse.

"Because you were the only person I could think of."

Dexter scoffed, "What about Arnold?"

Josie was slightly exasperated and replied firmly, "I've already told you nothing is going between me and Arnold. I don't even like him. Wait – did he tell you that he likes me?"

Dexter said calmly, "He has made it known on multiple occasions that he wishes you to be his assistant."

Josie chuckled, "Why do you think he would like me then?"

## [Chapter 193](#)

### Into the Public Eye

Dexter's desire to have her all to himself grew stronger as he fixated on her serene eyes and delicate features.

Suppressing his possessive desires, he glanced at his buzzing phone that flashed an important message. Without looking up, he said, "Prepare yourself for the banquet in three days."

Dexter's insistence on going public took Josie aback, and she questioned, "Are you seriously doing this?"

Dexter tucked his phone away, reassuring her, "All the attendees are insiders. They know how to keep secrets."

She mischievously squinted and teased, "Well, that's not part of our contract. So, coming to the banquet comes with an extra fee."

Dexter raised his eyes and replied tersely, "Do you always have to objectify yourself?"

Objectify?

Josie was infuriated. "What about the rumors concerning your alleged girlfriend being used for publicity? That appears to be a clear case of objectification."

Dexter's face hardened, raising the question, "Do you still think I'm wrong?"

"Aren't you?" She challenged, and her eyes locked with his. Isn't it a mistake while getting stirred up with someone else?

him to lead me on

Dexter's gaze lingered on her for a moment. However, as his phone buzzed 'Ivy' flashing on the screen, he averted his eyes and took the call, excusing himself.

out.

Soon after, the rumble of a car engine filled the air, and he was gone.

The balcony breeze swept in, and a cold shiver ran down her.

Josie read Dexter's message before it was deleted when he suddenly left for Rivodia.

What does it have to do with her anyways?

Suddenly, Josie was shocked to read a news article about Mr. Davidson's downfall.

She knew this would be Dexter.

As evening fell, news about the Russell Group's triumphant acquisition of Landon was announced.

Indeed, tomorrow's banquet was all set precisely as planned.

+25 Bonus

They embarked on a nine thousand miles journey, boarding a private plane from Rivodia to Wavery.

During a meeting with the executives, the plane hit turbulence which caused a sudden jolt that sent water from their cups spilling onto the floor.

Fortunately, it was temporary turbulence, and everything quickly settled down.

The meeting ended. Unfortunately, the project team had to work tirelessly for two nights. due to Landon's mistake.

Upon receiving the phone call, Dexter quickly flew to Rivodia and worked tirelessly for two consecutive nights.

Ivy noticed his pale complexion and offered another cup of warm water. "Mr. Russell, you should take a break."

Dexter's face softened as he cleared his throat and asked, "How's Josie doing?"

"All good," Ivy replied, her lips pursed.

He heaved a sigh of relief.

As Josie was discharged from the hospital, her phone buzzed, with a familiar number displayed on her screen.

As the day progressed, the gray veil of the afternoon sky lifted and revealed a luminous sight. The sun emerged triumphantly and illuminated the world with its brilliant rays.

She basked in a golden realm; the world was aglow with radiance. Her call was finally connected after a few seconds.

The voice on the phone sounded tired but tender. "Where are you?"

"I'm still working."

Dexter chuckled softly as he replied exasperated, "It's Saturday. Everyone enjoys their weekends off."

Josie remained silent.

"I just touched duvhtown. Where are you? I'll come pick you up."

#### [Chapter 194](#)

##### Revealing His Weakness

His initial call was meant for Mason, only to find out she wasn't available.

As rays

of light traversed in a gentle glow, Josie remained indifferent as she said coolly, "Mr. Russell, one cannot always win over the hearts of others."

"I was angry. I didn't mean what I said earlier."

"What did you mean, then?"

"I'll tell you when I see you. Please, tell me where you are now?"

She sighed, "I'm at the... hospital."

Dexter swiftly settled into his Rolls-Royce, exuding an air of unabashed extravagance.

Dexter stepped out of the car, merely donning beige shirt and black trousers. He walked towards his wife, who stood in a bowed head like a penguin. He felt a pang of guilt and reached out, pulling her close. "Shall we go home?" he softly asked.

He looked exhausted.

"Aren't you cold?" Josie asked tactfully.

His jacket had been left behind on the passenger seat. "Wavery isn't as cold as Rivodia," he remarked, his eyes fixed on the road as he braved the chilly weather.

"What will it take for you to come back?" He quickly added.

She stayed silent briefly in his arms, her eyes still as she softly murmured, "I'm not sure."

A sharp breeze cut through the air as she inched away, reminding them of the biting cold. Dexter clasped her hand firmly, his voice filled with warmth as he asked, "So, what's the plan?"

She pulled her hand back, eyes locked with his. "Unless you apologize to me," she said sternly.

Silence ensued.

As the eldest and heir to the Russell family group, he had never apologized before. Even if he was at fault, no one could force him unless he chose to.

frightened as she anticipated his response. You should go back. I'll take a taste

She firmly refused to go back with him, no matter what.

Dexter got into his car and trailed behind Josie.

The Rolls-Royce emanated an undeniable air of opulence and grandeur.

Josie boarded the bus, hoping to shake him off. To her dismay, Dexter was persistent and even sent her a text asking why didn't she take the cab as she had said.

Josie ignored the text.

The bus was just a few stops away from Mason Garden when Josie snapped and stormed back to Dexter. "Hey, this is getting absolutely outrageous!"

A brisk autumn wind swept in, playfully ruffled Josie's braid, and a few strands gently clung to her face.

Their eyes locked, and their world fell silent, frozen in time.

Josie's cheeks flushed with embarrassment as the public's prying eyes peered on her. A sudden coolness brushed against the nape of her neck, and in an instant, she found herself pulled in his arms. She looked up and was met with a gentle yet tender kiss.

Coldness pierced through, leaving an icy trail in its wake.

They kissed deeply, seeking comfort in each other's warmth.

The wind gushed, but Josie caught a muffled reply, "I'm not what you think – the Russell Group has terminated the contract with Jesse Abbott."

Josie was surprised.

At the bustling intersection, the jingling sound of a cyclist's bell abruptly ceased, leaving behind a momentary silence amidst the clamor of traffic.

[Chapter 195](#)

Advised to Have a Baby

It's canceled?

Dexter would do anything to maximize his profit; he wouldn't let such trivial matters get in the way of his work.

Josie's body tensed up in his arms, but Dexter tightened his grip on her. "Let's return home. Grandpa is leaving today."

Josie was feeling conflicted as she followed his lead to the car. She carefully lifted her gaze to look at him. His back was broad and firm. His charismatic stance is second to none. Why would a businessman like him cancel the partnership with a celebrity for her?

She felt downhearted the past few days, but now that the problem was solved, she was in disbelief at his behavior.

As she mulled over her thoughts, she felt a faint feeling of anxiety seeping within her.

All of a sudden, they passed by a massive mirror in Mason Garden. Her reflection in the mirror took her by surprise when she glanced at herself. She noticed her face was flushed with redness, her eyes filled with lust, and part of her lipstick was gone. Anyone would catch on to what had happened.

It was all because of Dexter! How can he act this way?

Marilyn had packed his luggage and prepared a car. When Grandpa saw them entering hand in hand, his face lit up as a smile spread across his face. He felt relieved when he exclaimed loudly, "That's right!"

Josie returned a smile and said, "Grandpa, why are you in a rush? Stay longer so it's more convenient for us to care for you."

Dexter added, "What treasure do you have in the Russell Mansion that would require your immediate attention?"

Grandpa's smile slowly faded away upon hearing his words. "You little brat! You only know how to anger me! Please learn how to speak properly from Jo." He turned to Josie and continued, "I'm old now and need to rely on my bed at home to have a good night's sleep."

Josie nodded at his reply and walked towards Marilyn to thank her for her help throughout the past few days.

"I'll

get

Chris to send you home," Dexter informed Grandpa.

ed and whispered. "Try hard and have a baby with

long."

Dexter was upset by his words. He furrowed his brows and replied, "You're still in good health. Don't say such things."



Grandpa beamed and, with a more somber tone, said resolutely. "I'm the person that's the most aware of my physical state. Also, you must get rid of your hot temper. Jo is someone you're going to spend a lifetime with. You have to learn to compromise with one another. Don't end up like your father."

Dexter's jaw clenched in response as he looked at Josie's delicate physique. A lifetime? It's hard to imagine.

"I understand."

"Also, I'm not done yet." Grandpa noticed his eyes flickered with annoyance and continued, "Have your wedding planned as soon as possible. Don't make her wait any longer."

Once Josie heard Grandpa's advice, she turned to look at Dexter, but his head was looking away with an inscrutable expression. "Alright."

Grandpa and Marilyn had both left. The Mason Garden felt empty all of a sudden. Josie sat on the balcony, looking at the sycamore tree by the streets. Its leaves were painted yellow, adding to the sense of nostalgia and melancholy that permeated the autumn day.

Her calm and composed demeanor masked her thoughts that had wandered off, ruminating on Grandpa's conversation with Dexter. She didn't even realize he was walking in her direction until he was right next to her.

He stood behind her and naturally rested his hands on her shoulders. "What are you looking at?"

Josie sat facing the vast and boundless sea. She tilted her head and laid her cheeks on his cold hands. "Dexter, did I cause more trouble for you?"

Her emotionless remark was layered with the weight she had carried in her heart.

"No." His gaze laid on the hair she had cut off. "Why are you feeling unhappy?"

Josie took a deep breath but couldn't unravel her most genuine thoughts. She summoned up a smile and averted from spilling her thoughts, "I'm missing Grandpa. He's an adorable family member. Dexter, you're fortunate to have him as your grandpa."

## [Chapter 196](#)

### Attending the Celebration Party

Dexter creased his forehead. "My grandpa is also now your grandpa."

Josie let out a sigh without taking his words to heart. "I have no idea how to help my father. Matt's words worry me."

Dexter walked away for a short while and brought back with him a box of ice cream. Then, he placed the box in front of her foot and said, "Since we've already come to this point, have something sweet to lighten up."

Josie was appalled by his behavior. "This..."

"You earned the project and got promoted to the director position. You've made significant progress."

The ice cream melted as soon as it entered her mouth, and she felt a burst of sweetness that immediately changed her mood for the better. "Since Grandpa has returned home, I'll return to my original room."

A cloud passed across Dexter's gaze. He took the ice cream away from her, leaving her dumbfounded by his actions. "Then stop eating. I'm getting my revenge."

Josie's hands were frozen on the spot. "What do you mean?" After mulling over what had happened, she finally chuckled and teased him, "Dexter Russell, are you sad that I'm leaving your side?"

He grunted coldly without looking at her.

They had been sleeping in the same room for a long time. It would be impossible not to feel a sense of emptiness. Josie couldn't deny how comfortable she felt using his arms as her pillow.

"I'm just joking. Please return the ice cream to me." Josie went closer to him. "Dexter?"

Despite feeling annoyed, he regained his composure and passed her the ice cream. "Grandpa has gone home, but are you sure he didn't order the maids in Mason Garden to keep their eyes on us?"

Josie nodded incessantly. "That's true. I guess I have no choice but to stay in your room."

Dexter's smile slowly spread across his face, creasing the ends of his eyes. Under the light, his warm gaze grew with affection.

lock succeedarty was held at the Bulgari Hotel's top floor

Attending the Celebration Party

Once the sun was up, Josie was sent to the beauty parlor for a facial treatment before changing into a customized evening gown made by the stylist hired by Dexter. He was amazed by her beauty. "How could you be so gorgeous with such minimal efforts?"

Josie was humored by his compliment, "I'm just a regular person."

"You can't say this anymore. You were a regular person, but now you're not."

Josie pursed her lips as she looked at herself in the mirror. She wore a light green mermaid. dress accentuating her curves, while her hair was tied into a slick bun without any accessories. Despite the simplicity of her style, her timeless beauty and elegance were still captivating.

The stylist admired how good she looked. "You're leaving me speechless. You look amazing! This is the epitome of natural beauty."

Josie couldn't conceal her delight at the compliments she received.

In the evening, Dexter picked her up in a new car. The Mercedes AMG G 63 had been remodeled, resulting in a bold and impressive new look.

Josie stood frozen in amazement. He wore a plain white shirt, but his charming appearance complemented his vehicle flawlessly. She couldn't believe her eyes as she assumed he preferred simplicity.

She didn't imagine him to be this wild.

Dexter walked in front of her and reached out his hands. "This dress fits you perfectly."

Josie rested her hands on his hands. "I'm nervous."

"I'm here."

She felt reassured by his words.

There were plenty of branded cars parked on the ground floor of Bulgari Hotel. All the individuals who entered and exited the hotel were wealthy.

Josie followed Dexter as they walked into the elevator. The doors opened to the top floor of the Bulgari Hotel.

Ten tables were placed extravagantly in the ballroom, and all the guests were prominent figures in the industry.

Josie carefully walked through the ballroom with her hands wrapped around his arms. Everyone's gaze fell on Dexter and slowly shifted to the women beside him. They were surprised because he had never brought a woman to any previous events he had attended.

#### [Chapter 197](#)

Dexter's Admirer

"Mr. Russell, congratulations!"

"Mr. Russell, congratulations for your success!"

"Mr. Russell, the acquisition of Landon by Russell Group is considered their greatest blessing."

They stood before Dexter and raised a toast in his honor. Dexter received a glass and passed it to Josie before receiving another.

"Thank you. But I'm afraid that Arnold will not be pleased by your comment."

The people who were present observed how he was taking care of Josie, even a man in a blue suit. The man walked over and contributed to their conversation, "It seems that Dexter may be overly concerned. Landon isn't something I must hold on to. I'll gladly pass it to you."

His eyes immediately rested on Josie. "Take it as a present to your..." He left his last word lingering for a few moments before continuing, "New girlfriend."

Dexter smirked and scornfully replied, "It seems like Arnold isn't very observant. She isn't my girlfriend."

Josie felt her heart sink while everyone stared at her intently, growing more curious about her identity.

"She's my wife."

Everyone, including Josie, was startled by his revelation. Even Arnold raised his eyebrows in disbelief. He was impressed that Josie managed to get Dexter to publicly clarify the nature of the relationship.

"Mrs. Russell? When did Mr. Russell get married? I never heard any news about it."

The elderly CEOs at the party were unhappy to learn that a highly accomplished young man in Wavery was married.

"Which lucky girl managed to achieve such honor?"

Dexter and Josie locked their eyes at each other as Dexter held her closer by her waist. "We've officially registered our marriage but haven't organized a wedding ceremony. I hope everyone here can help us keep a secret."

ing how he was reluctant to share more details they

Sing

on him. It seemed like she wasn't from an affluent

had never seen her before.

They made a toast to her and called her Mrs. Russell. While their friendliness took her aback, she commented wittily. "How is it my honor to marry him? He's the one lucky to have me as his wife."

Everyone chuckled as they didn't expect to hear such a quip from her. Dexter followed her lead and jokingly replied, "Yes, I'm the lucky guy."

Arnold smirked. "They look good together."

Dexter held her hands and introduced her to the executives of Russell Group. She was addressed as Mrs. Russell in a respectful and affable tone by everyone. Suddenly, someone commented, "Why does she seem familiar?"

Josie immediately replied, "I get that a lot."

After an hour, Josie felt her feet were starting to sore from continuously walking around without rest. Dexter guided her to a comfortable sofa and advised her to take a rest.

Josie was enjoying herself immensely. All the attendees were dressed in fancy attire and had a laid-back demeanor. It seems like they are leading a life without stress. As she pondered the contrasting lifestyles of the rich and the poor, she let out a deep sigh.

Suddenly, she caught sight of a woman entering the ballroom hastily. She was dressed entirely in branded clothing and accessories from head to toe. She quickly exchanged a few words with a middle-aged man before dashing in her direction.

Josie was momentarily stunned. She glanced toward Dexter and noticed he was conversing with someone else nearby.

"Yes... I guess?"

The lady sneered at her. "You don't even dare to admit you're his wife. W

Dexter make such a shabby woman like

you,

his wife?"

This person surely has an ill-intention. Maybe she's an admirer of Dexter?

Just as she was about to defend herself, she heard a voice coming from behind. "Laur being rude."

It was Arnold. He stood beside Josie and said matter of factly.

"Arnold! Why are you taking her side? You know she..." She was becoming visibly frustrated as her face started to turn red.

## [Chapter 198](#)

### Splash of Wine

"What do I know? Dexter brought his wife to a party for the first time, and you're here creating trouble for him. We'll wait and see how he punishes you later."

"I'll leave that up to him!" She replied without a hint of nervousness. "Arnold, didn't you go to London a few days ago? Is Summer recovering well? If she knew what happened here, you'd need to return to London again!"

Arnold fidgeted a little but smiled as he continued, "Laura, if Summer ever finds out about this, I won't let you off easily."

"Arnold Carter! Why are you taking this b\*tch's side?"

"Who are you referring to as a b\*tch?" Josie was upset at her rude remarks. "I don't even know you, but it doesn't mean you can call me names!"

"Why can't I? You are a b\*tch! You seduced Dex when Summer wasn't around. I can't believe you even married him secretly!" She was the only one in the room who wasn't wearing a mask of composure. She must've just found out about their marriage.

"If she's as outstanding as you describe, why did she leave the country and give me this. chance? Please watch your filthy mouth! I have never seduced Dexter. Not even once."

Josie couldn't help but refute her outrageous claims.

"You!" Laura's anger boiled over. The next moment, she snatched up a wine glass, intending to splash it on Josie's face, but Arnold stepped before her. The wine splashed all over his suit, and Josie gasped in shock, bewildered that he would protect her dignity.

Arnold's eyes narrowed into icy slits. "Are you satisfied now?"

"Arnold."

"Leave!"

Laura glared at Josie before stomping away in anger.

Josie rushed to take the tissues and wiped his suit. "This... I... you... that... thank you," she stuttered nervously.

Arnold grabbed her wrist and dragged her to the washroom. "It's not convenient here. Let's go somewhere else."

Unlock succeeded

him unwillingly. She turned around and hadn't seen what had happened.

Arnold removed his coat in the washroom and went straight to the point. "You're good."

Josie pretended she didn't understand. "What do you mean, Mr. Carter?"

"It turned out you'd already been married to Dexter when I first met you. How did it happen?" Arnold had his hands in his pocket as he leaned on the sink and lit a cigarette.

Josie awkwardly smiled at him. "I guess I'm really charming."

Arnold sneered at her reply and rested his eyes on her chest. "I'm not sure about your charms, but you have an attractive body."

Josie immediately covered her chest with her hands. "Why are you acting like this?"

"Have you two done the deed?"

+25 Bonus

Josie didn't understand why he made such a brusque inquiry. However, since Dexter had already admitted their relationship, she naturally replied, "Of course."

Arnold nodded and exhaled a puff of smoke. "I've seen the CCTV in the resting area."

Josie remembered that Dexter had already removed the listening device. "You're lying."

"He removed the listening device but not the CCTV. He wanted me to witness it, so I did my part and enjoyed it." Arnold was having fun teasing her. "I got a call from Summer that day. She was involved in an accident, so I had no choice but to fly to London, but it turned out that Dexter had acquired Landon while I wasn't around."

Josie's eyes

widened as she realized the truth. They were all part of Dexter's deliberate plan.

"Mr. Carter had wanted me to charm Dexter, but it turns out that a similar spell has been cast on you."

## [Chapter 199](#)

Don't Get Ahead of Yourself

Arnold showed no response to her tease. "I had been pondering whether Dexter made me leave the city because of the project or if it was for you, and now I finally got my answer.

Josie fidgeted with her hands as she spoke with a hint of a smile. "So, what's the answer?"

"Wouldn't you know by now?"

Arnold stubbed out his cigarette and held his elegant, thin fingers under the automatic faucet.

"You're getting more interesting. Why don't you come to my side? You won't be able to handle this marriage."

"You're getting ahead of yourself," she answered calmly.

Arnold wrapped his arms around her waist and leaned closer to her. "Don't be deceived by his nice facade. I heard he canceled the partnership with Jesse Abbott for you?"

"Is that not allowed?"

"It's allowed, but do you truly understand his intentions? Did he do it for you or for his own benefit? Don't fall too deep into his trap," Arnold patiently warned Josie.

Josie was feeling conflicted. A minor celebrity wouldn't be very beneficial to him. "Do you I'm less important to him than Jesse Abbott?"

think

He didn't answer her directly. "Then why did he help her that day instead of you?"

Josie felt a knot of sadness tighten in her chest. "That's not the same!"

"How is it different?"

She despised how assured he seemed in his judgment. She wanted to escape his grasp, but he held on to her tighter and whispered in her ear, "What do you think the people outside would say if I did something to you here?"

Josie's eyes widened in fear. "Arnold Carter! You scumbag!"

"I like it when you scold me like this." He released her with his lips curled into a smile. He took two steps back, then turned and walked away. "You still owe me a suit."

Why do I always encounter such bad luck?

ein understand why he wanted her on

she noticed Dexter was still busy. Her frustration was building up like a pressure cooker, so she texted him to say she needed to clear her head outside.

Before she left, she took two oranges from the fruit basket with her.

Josie bounced out of the hotel, her steps light and carefree. She tossed an orange into the air and caught it with a delightful smile, flashing her beautiful teeth. She was like a student on a

summer vacation.

After a short while, she noticed Dexter's car stopped in front of her. The driver honked and exited the vehicle. "Mrs. Russell, Mr. Russell had asked you to wait in the car."

Josie had nowhere else to escape.

Before long, Dexter strode out of the hotel. "Couldn't you stay any longer?"

Josie clutched her oranges to her chest, feeling wronged and frustrated. "It's too boring." After a short pause, she asked, "Don't you need to attend to more people?"

"I'm almost done." Dexter dragged her into the car. "I'm more afraid that away. Where were you planning to go just now?"

you

would run

Josie kept silent and wouldn't reveal the truth. She felt uncomfortable by how close they were, so she tried to push him away, but he wouldn't let go.

Their eyes met, but she quickly broke it off, flustered by his gaze.

She finally stayed still and answered, "Home"

"Then let's go home." Dexter signaled the driver to take them home.

Josie didn't say a word as she peeled the oranges. The driver could almost taste the sweetness and sourness of the oranges as the smell wafted through the car, and his mouth began to

water.

She carefully peeled the white pith from the oranges and placed it in her mouth. Her cheeks started puffing out as she chewed.

She finished an orange without acknowledging his presence. Dexter's hand closed over hers as she reached for the next orange. "That's enough. Stop eating. It's not good for your stomach."

## [Chapter 200](#)

### The Orange is Sweet

Josie felt upset with him. These were her oranges. Why did she have to gain his permission before having it?

"You can have it," he cunningly let go of her hands and grabbed her cheeks, "But you'll have to let me try it first."

He kissed her lips.

Her lips tasted of citrus; it was intoxicating.

Josie's eyes widened in alarm. A bubbling sense of exasperation grew within her. Why does he always treat me like a ragdoll?

Her frustrations evaporated with his kiss. It arrived like a wave, crashing over her and taking her breath away.



She had been up since early that morning, getting styled for the party. And after all that happened throughout the night, she was finally starting to feel the effects of exhaustion.

Dexter hugged her warmly and signaled the driver to drive slower.

He patted her shoulders and softly kissed her forehead. "Have a rest here."

Josie leaned against his shoulders and felt safe in his arms. Her eyes were closed, and her hands were gripping his shirt. Dexter gently pried her fingers loose and placed her hand on his chest.

She let the drowsiness wash over her as she slowly fell asleep.

Josie turned a one-hour trip back home into two hours.

The sun sets earlier in the winter, making the days shorter and the nights longer.

As they waited for the light to change, Dexter looked up at the high-rise buildings surrounding the city square.

It was six in the evening, and a variety show was being shown on the screen.

To prevent waking Josie up, the driver softly spoke to Dexter, "There's a small fluctuation in the Russell Group's share price today due to the announcement of your marriage. However, I believe the stock price will return to normal soon, and your marriage will ultimately benefit the company."

When a handsome and successful man like Dexter announces his marriage, it could be difficult to avoid the media attention and scrutiny that comes with being in the public eye.

Dexter's smile faltered as he said, "I'd announce it to the public, but I don't want her pictures getting taken."

Josie was unaware of the potential consequences. He only announced their marriage to people in the industry, but she would not be happy if reporters caught wind of it and tried to take her pictures.

In reality, Dexter didn't mind the public getting wind of their relationship.

At the celebration party, there were elderly CEOs who congratulated him and asked, "When is Mr. and Mrs. Russell's wedding ceremony?"

If Dexter had a wedding ceremony, it would be a grand one.

"I'll follow my wife's wishes," he answered.

He felt a wave of happiness wash over him when he uttered the words, "My wife."

Many were taken aback by how much he cared for and adored his wife.

When they arrived at Mason Garden, Josie finally shook off her drowsiness after having dinner.

She opened her mouth to ask Dexter about Laura and Arnold, but he covered it before she could say a word. "Aren't you tired? Go take a bath first."

She shook her head. "I'm not..."

But he wouldn't back down. "Listen to me. Go."

The living room was stifling, so he rolled up his sleeves and squatted down to repair the slightly damaged table.

He went about fixing the table with the confidence of a man who had done it a thousand times before.

She couldn't understand why he didn't ask the maid for help. She squatted down next to him and asked, "Do you need a hand?"

He raised his head and arched his eyebrows in frustration. "I told you to go now."

Josie was surprised and recoiled, nearly losing her balance.

Dexter quickly caught Josie by the shoulders and steadied her before gently placing his hands on her back. "Are you alright?" he asked, concern etched on his face.

Josie was truly taken aback and didn't want to stay any longer. Why is he acting this way? Her tears welled up as she glared at him. Soon after, she stood up and stormed towards the bathroom.

She thought he would go after her, but she could hear nothing but the sound of her own heartbeat as she approached the door.

How can he be like this? He's so kind and caring when comforting me, but he turns into a completely different person once I'm home.