

Chapter 47 It's Like You're Itching For A Kiss

Observing the poised and assertive Elyse before her, Zandra noted a marked change. Gone was the meekness Elyse once displayed.

Even now, alone with her, Elyse exuded confidence. Not only could Elyse handle herself with grace, but Elyse also adeptly addressed her primary concern as Theo's mother—ensuring her son married a woman of substance and making clear that she wouldn't allow anyone to jeopardize the marriage she arranged for her son in the future.

Elyse didn't conceal her intention to use Zandra against Kaelyn, and Zandra, astute as ever, recognized it. Yet, rather than feeling angered, she admired Elyse's strategic thinking. She had become wise.

"It seems you hold quite a grudge against that woman," Zandra remarked casually, taking a sip of water.

Indeed, she was aware of the woman entangled in Theo and Elyse's past. However, Theo's choice of Elyse as his future wife signified his preference. His feelings for Kaelyn were likely nothing more than a reminiscence from their school days. Thus, Zandra didn't invest much thought into Kaelyn.

Moreover, she wasn't entirely satisfied with Elyse at the time, so witnessing the dissolution of their relationship by Kaelyn wasn't entirely unwelcome. And true to her expectations, Kaelyn didn't disappoint. At the wedding, Theo abandoned Elyse, ultimately leading her to marry another man.

Elyse's words now struck a chord with Zandra. The possibility of Kaelyn disrupting Theo's marriage once again loomed large, prompting Zandra to adopt a more serious demeanor. If Kaelyn held such sway over Theo, she wouldn't tolerate it.

As their conversation drew to a close, dishes were nearly served.

After the meal, as they prepared to part ways, Zandra paused, her expression grave. "Remember, keep your distance from my son."

Without awaiting a response, she departed without a backward glance, leaving Elyse seething with anger.

"Damn it! Why hasn't Theo's mother changed a bit? So arrogant!" Despite making her stance clear to Zandra, was she still apprehensive that she might lure Theo away?

Elyse had been blind by love for three years, not her whole life!

Before returning home, she purchased a mango smoothie.

Upon arriving home, Driscoll noticed the smoothie in her hand and inquired, "Do you have a liking for mangoes?"

"Yes, I adore them. They're so lusciously sweet!"

Driscoll sighed. "It's a shame Mr. Owen can't indulge in mangoes. The scent makes him sneeze, so we steer clear of them."

Elyse was momentarily stunned. After hastily brushing her teeth multiple times to rid herself of any trace of mango, she swiftly descended the stairs to seek out Driscoll.

"Give me a sniff."

Driscoll grinned. "All clear. You brushed your teeth a good number of times, haven't you?"

"Yeah, five times," Elyse admitted.

"But you're not planning to kiss him, are you? So it's all good."

Clamping her hand over her mouth, Elyse had to admit Driscoll was spot on. There wouldn't be any smooching with Jayden. So why the extra effort in dental hygiene?

"It's like you're itching for a kiss," Jayden's voice, laced with amusement, came from behind.

Feeling a blush creeping up her cheeks, Elyse hastily clarified, "You've got

it all wrong. I was just being cautious in case you were allergic to mangoes."

"But we always keep a respectable distance. I can't catch a whiff of mango from miles away," Jayden teased, leaning into it.

Gritting her teeth, Elyse retorted, "I was just looking out for you!"

Seeing her discomfort, Jayden coughed lightly, changing the subject. "Your outfit for the dinner tonight arrived. Get a shower. The glam squad is on their way."

"Why go all out for just a dinner?" Elyse questioned.

"Because I'd rather not have you reflecting poor on me, even among your irritating classmates," Jayden quipped.

"It won't happen." Elyse retreated to her room to prepare for the evening's dinner.

As the evening arrived, they both showed up at the hotel right on schedule. The staff, recognizing them, guided them to their reserved spot without a word, leading them straight to their private dining room.

By now, all of Elyse's classmates had gathered, dressed to the nines to avoid any embarrassment. The transformation from ordinary to elegant was remarkable.

Jayden and Elyse's entrance immediately drew the attention of most in the room.

It was a novel experience for Elyse to be the focus of such intense scrutiny from her peers. She couldn't shake off a feeling of guilt.

"You better get used to this level of attention," Jayden murmured to her.

She couldn't afford to let Jayden down. Standing tall among her classmates, Elyse shed the last vestiges of her inferiority complex.

"Just heard from the lobby manager that this exclusive dining room is strictly reserved for VIPs. Who's your husband, Elyse? He's got some serious clout!"

"I did some digging online. This room is usually reserved for top-tier executives of major corporations. Average folks like us can't even get a reservation. And just as I walked in, a stunning lady tried slipping me her number, thinking I was a big shot!"

"She must've thought you were loaded and wanted to snag you!"

The buzz of conversation was electrifying. Being treated with such respect and admiration felt incredible!