

Divorce 1021

Chapter 1021 A Dark Pair of Eyes

My gaze met the dark eyes of a man seated at a table across from us.

The young man sitting there didn't shy away from our eye contact, and I had no intention of avoiding it either.

He looked handsome in a fresh way, with a square face and well-defined features. However, those deep eyes were like the bottom of a pond. They were dark and seemingly calm, but shrouded in mystery.

I studied his face for a moment, feeling a sense of déjà vu. But I was sure I didn't know him.

Lauren called my name, and I quickly turned to her. She asked, "Do you want to go to the cafe here after dinner?"

I looked at Dominic and asked, "Mr. Dominic, would you like to take a stroll to the cafe later?"

"No, I'm not used to drinking tea. You guys go ahead. I'll head back to rest," he said, decisively declining my invitation.

I wasn't surprised at all. After all, he was a scholar, and such social events didn't interest him.

"How about Mr. Fred? Anything you'd like to discuss with me?" I suggested, looking at Fred. "Let's walk back together, and then we can go to the cafe below the hotel," Fred proposed.

I thought it was a good idea. It would be convenient for everyone to return and rest.

I nodded. "Alright, let's walk back."

Then, I picked up my phone and messaged Arnold. "Do you have a picture of Denton?"

Then I glanced at the opposite table. The young man conversed with one of the elderly individuals, looking casual and genuinely cheerful.

My phone dinged, and it was Arnold responding promptly with a picture.

Eagerly, I opened it to find a bright and smiling young man. Indeed, it was the same guy from across the restaurant.

That explained why I felt a sense of familiarity. He resembled Martin, whom I had encountered before, with that distinct face of the Terrell family. Arnold quickly followed up with a question mark.

I replied with just two words. "Chance encounter."

His call immediately came in. I signaled to the others, leaving for the balcony to take Arnold's call.

"Hey, are you home?" I asked.

"Tell me, how did it happen?" He asked, going straight to the point.

"At a restaurant," I replied casually.

"He didn't show any reaction, did he?" Arnold's tone sounded urgent.

"Why would he? We just exchanged glances. But he definitely knows it's me. He kept looking over." I added, "He's been watching us."

"Did he make a move?" Arnold continued with his anxious inquiries.

"No, not at all. Just observing, I guess. You don't have to worry. I'm not scared of him," I reassured him.

"Alright, I'm still worried. He just returned to Bourdamun. There won't be any immediate action. Be careful, okay?"

"I'm not afraid, so stop worrying. What's with your unnecessary concern?" I chuckled. "I'll see you later. Bye!"

We hung up, and I returned to my seat, realizing that we had already finished our meal.

Lauren glanced at Dominic and

asked, "Shall we go downstairs for a

hovel

walk? There are a few more characteristic buildings of

Bourdamun along a quieter path." en.swhovels.net

"Sure, let's go," Dominic agreed.

The four of us stood up, and I noticed Denton's eyes were still fixated on me.

Casually, I motioned for the others to walk and continued our conversation while heading downstairs.

The Terrell family seemed to have set their sights on me.

Lauren led us through a pedestrian street and onto another path. It was much quieter here than on the main road.

By now, neon lights were twinkling.

Since the construction of New Bourdamun, the old city had

surprisingly become lively. It wamet

said that it had never been so busy before, and it was gradually attracting more visitors.

Everyone had special anticipation for the new city.

The distance from here to the Bourdamun Hotel wasn't far.

To be honest, I had a bad feeling about the Bourdamun Hotel. Still, in the old Bourdamun, this was the only decent hotel.

On this street, people walked in pairs or small groups after dinner. I didn't expect to meet an acquaintance here.

Chapter 1022 Coming Up With Excuses

The familiar face turned out to be none other than Oliver, accompanied by Noah.

It seemed that Noah had close ties with Oliver, which was not out of the ordinary. After all, the construction of New Bourdamun required substantial funding. These two were closely connected.

Oliver didn't appear surprised to see us. Perhaps it was due to familiarity, but he didn't shy away and kept his eyes fixed on Lauren's face.

However, I also noticed that Oliver's eyes wouldn't stray to anyone else as long as Lauren was present.

I introduced Dominic and Fred to them.

Noah warmly said, "Let's go together."

After a round of laughter, we all headed toward the hotel. Oliver naturally stood beside Lauren.

Although they walked together in silence without much conversation, I knew this might be the opportunity Oliver had been waiting for.

At the hotel entrance, Noah bid farewell, and Dominic went back to his room to rest.

I had matters to discuss with Fred, and Lauren quickly said, "I'll go back to the room to rest. We'll head back to Foswood in the morning."

However, Oliver promptly said, "Lauren, I'd like to take you out for a stroll. The shops here are quite nice."

Just as Lauren was about to respond, I quickly interjected, "Lauren, while you're out, could you check for any delicious snacks to bring back for the elderly and kids? They're with Rose right now." Lauren shot me a reproachful look and said, "Why didn't you mention it earlier?"

I smiled, pretending to be oblivious.

Oliver promptly responded, "Sure, we'll look around for some."

Lauren pursed her lips but unable to say much more with Fred present.

She turned to nod at Fred, and then Oliver turned back with her. I watched their retreating figures and couldn't help but smile inwardly.

I silently praised Oliver. His efforts hadn't been in vain. I also felt that Oliver's steps seemed much lighter.

I sat down with Fred in the cafe, ordering a pot of tea for myself. I was afraid that coffee late at night might affect my sleep.

We began discussing Fred's family matters.

According to Fred, Hugo was currently pressuring his father to split the family assets, but his father knew that such a division wasn't feasible.

The founding of the Myers's factory was attributed to Fred's grandfather, who was a carpenter. He had carved out a niche with his set of carpentry skills, gradually expanding to become the first sizable window

manufacturing factory in the capital.

The current Urban Builders was founded as a result of three generations' efforts. It was with the iron windows, plastic doors and windows, and eventually, insulated steel windows. Several generations had poured their efforts into this, creating a legacy. However, Hugo appeared to be idle and carefree.

"My affection for my father stems

entirely from my mother. My mother treated my father like a king because they had a great relationship back then. But it was short-lived. My mother passed away during difficult childbirth when giving birth to their second child."

I could see the profound sadness in Fred as he spoke about this painful past.

He continued, "Before she died, she held my hand and told me that it was just going to be my father and me. She insisted that, no matter what, I must take good care of my father."

Fred's recounting revealed his grief.

"When I was six, my father

remarried. Hugo's mother entered our lives and gave birth to Hugo the following year. So, he is eight years

younger than me."

I had glanced through some information about the Myers family but was unaware of these details.

He went on, "My father dotes on Hugo quite a bit. I lost my childhood because of this."

"Hugo's mother doesn't seem to be a kind woman, right?" I boldly asked. "Otherwise, Hugo wouldn't be so bold and reckless. There must be some link there."

"You're right." Fred had to admit. "But have you considered that if this situation continues, Urban Builders can be in real danger?"

Chapter 1023 My Suggestions

I spoke frankly to Fred, "You know your brother. He's a person without principles and insatiable."

Fred leaned back on the couch.

"You're right. I used to give him some leeway because of Grandpa. After all, Grandpa is getting old, and his heart isn't in great shape. This year, he even experienced symptoms of a stroke. I've always been afraid that he wouldn't be able to handle a shock.

"So, I've been indecisive. I never really dealt with Hugo. It's just warning after warning, but he kept getting worse. Plus, his mother is always instigating him behind the scenes. She supports him in deceiving Grandpa."

I could completely imagine that situation.

"In reality, Grandpa knows everything. What Hugo wants is not the factory. It's the shares in Grandpa's hands. To achieve this, he recently got involved with a pregnant woman as another part of his scheme. "Before I came, Grandpa was hospitalized again. I suspect that this time, Grandpa's hospitalization isn't that simple."

Fred looked exhausted.

"So, how do you plan to deal with it?" I asked him.

He looked at me helplessly. "I have no solution! My wife is so angry that she suggests giving him everything. But, Ms. Chloe, this is my career!"

Fred looked at me helplessly, asking, "Can you give me some advice? I feel embarrassed to trouble you like this, but I've never worried about business matters like this.

"Before, I could handle any difficulty, but this mother and son wear me out. It might be a joke to you, but I'm even afraid he may hurt my father."

I did not doubt Fred's words.

Hugo had targeted Fred five years ago. If I hadn't stumbled upon him, Fred would have long fallen victim to his poisonous schemes. It would have ruined his reputation even if it hadn't cost him his life. I pondered for a moment, then looked up at him. "So, it depends on if you have the heart to do it."

"I realized that although I am a

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Myers, I haven't been a part of that family for a long time," Fred said regretfully. "I can see that my father is almost unable to cope anymore. Besides, someday, he won't be around. But I can't let Hugo ruin the Myers family business."

"Why not try a bait and switch?" I suggested.

Fred looked at me, a bit puzzled. "How do you do a bait and switch?"

I gazed at him. "It depends on your determination!"

"Given the current situation, I do need to make a firm decision. If it continues like this, Urban Builders will fall into his hands eventually, and he won't let you do business properly." "So, if he wants it, just give it to him," I said nonchalantly.

"But then it won't be long before he disperses into thin air!" Fred expressed his reluctance, his eyes filled with pain.

"You know, what he wants isn't the factory. You can secretly relocate the technical staff. You've seen that my projects here are completely trouble-free, right?"

He said, "I have no doubt about that!"

"In fact, I've been thinking about this situation since I returned from the capital. I also discussed it with Atlas. I once told Atlas that you could switch things around. Atlas immediately understood what meant. At the time, he told me that you had to make this decision.

"You can consider relocating the staff and setting up a small factory here in Bour.damun. It's convenient for my supplies, and you can avoid his entanglement. When the time is right you can agree to split the shares. By then, you'll already have this new factory."

I laid out my thoughts. When I discussed this idea with Atlas, he praised me for my courage.

Fred also listened very seriously, asking with some urgency, "And then?"

Chapter 1024 An Absolutely Brilliant Move

"But remember, you have to play your part to the fullest! Let him know that you've been forced into a corner. In the end, show your magnanimity in front of your grandfather. Only take what's rightfully yours and completely cut ties with them."

"So, you're saying to cut ties with the Myers family completely?" Fred remarked.

"Because what you want is that inconspicuous little factory. He won't refuse. The key is to make him sign a contract, ensuring that this small factory has no connection whatsoever with them. Be decisive." I shared my general idea with him.

"During this time, straighten out your thoughts and arrange these matters. Here, you only need a trustworthy person to help you handle things. I think when it comes to splitting the shares, he won't even bother about this small factory here. You can build up strength and resources here."

"You mean, give him an empty shell?" Fred caught up with my thoughts.

I nodded. "Once the timing is right, you can take back control in the capital."

I reassured him, "Starting development here isn't hard, especially with my support. You can bring in excellent personnel while quietly transferring top talent from the capital. However, be quick and decisive. Resolve it in one go, or else there's no guarantee of success."

I pointed out the drawbacks here.

"What you do must appear as if you've exhausted all kindness, and you want nothing to do with the Myers family. Remember, Urban Builders's name must not be tarnished. I believe he's eager to distance himself from you and kick you out of the Myers family completely.

"This won't be a problem at all. He'll accept it since it's related to you. It means nothing to him. Just like how I did with Hartz Construction back then."

His eyes suddenly lit up as he fell into thought. After a while, he nodded thoughtfully.

"Chloe, your idea is excellent. I'll carefully consider the details. If I decide to go through with it, I'll have to trouble you to pave the way for me here."

He looked at me, concerned about the suitability of this place.

"It's not a problem. What you saw just now is the highest level in Bourdamun. I can negotiate for you. You're among the first to want to set up a factory here. Who knows? You might even get some good

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investment policies. You have the right timing, location, and people."

My words enlightened Fred. He became excited, slapping his hands on the table.

"Chloe, you're truly my benefactor! You saved me five years ago, and now you've saved me again. I am truly grateful."

"Hey... Don't say such things. We can all work together to do something ambitious. That's the ultimate goal. Why bother entangling yourself with this scoundrel endlessly?" "You're right. He has already affected my development," Fred affirmed.

"I'm going to say something offensive. Someone like Hugo should be sent in for rehabilitation but you don't have the heart for that. You're hesitant, so this is the next best option. If you soften your stance again, you're asking for trouble," I said firmly.

"Forget about him, Fred. If your internal conflicts persist, I'll have to switch suppliers. There's no doubt about that. This is why I insisted you come to Foswood for an on-site inspection. I have high hopes for Urban Builders, but your current internal strife has me worried."

I made my point clear.

"No, Chloe. This time, I won't hesitate anymore. He'll be locked up sooner or later, but I don't want to dirty my hands. After all, my father is still around."

I nodded. It seemed he wasn't ruthless enough yet. Just as he said, maybe it was because his father was still around.

"But if you handle this well, I guarantee you'll have both fame and fortune," I encouraged.

The reason I comforted Fred wasn't just to help him. I also wanted to settle the score for what happened five years ago.

Chapter 1025 Fighting for the Bill

Actually, I had read about their family history. Fred started boarding school at 12, indicating that his stepmother wasn't treating him well.

Otherwise, they wouldn't send such a young kid to a boarding school. Rather than saying it was to toughen up the child's will, I think it was to bring peace to that family. At least that woman could be at ease without seeing the child.

I believe his father understood this, and Fred must be well aware of the situation. However, he remained overly loyal to his father.

When he was 17, he went straight into his family's factory instead of going to college. If his father hadn't been unwell, I'm sure he wouldn't have gotten the factory. He was essentially a puppet working for the three members of the Myers family.

Fred has one significant advantage. That was dedication. This was one of the main reasons I believed in him.

Secondly, it was his excessive filial piety. He was loyal and trustworthy since he could be so filial to such an extent. This was the real reason I wanted to help him.

We chatted late into the night before heading upstairs to rest. Lauren hadn't returned yet, and it seemed they were getting along well.

After I finished showering and drying my hair, Lauren knocked on the door with bags of stuff. Behind her was Oliver, carrying more.

After my shower, Lauren told Oliver, "Give me the things. You go back and rest."

Oliver quickly handed the items to Lauren, looking a bit reluctant. "Have a good night."

"Hurry back," Lauren said, closing the door heavily.

I looked at the bags on the floor and asked her, "Why did you buy so much? What are all these things? Did you move the shops here?"

Lauren scoffed. "Aren't I just following orders? Gifts for the elderly and children, right? Besides, I can't just buy for your sake. We have guests with us, and it wouldn't be right to let them leave empty-handed. So, I bought some for them too."

I gave Lauren a thumbs-up and said, "Lauren, you're really considerate!"

Lauren proudly said, "Anyway, someone else was footing the bill. Why should I worry? It's not like I'm spending my own money."

I said jokingly, "You're too cunning! Not only does he have to carry things for you, you even let him pay?"

With a disdainful expression, she said, "He'll fight with me to pay. What can I do? Should I argue with him on the street over a few bucks?"

I couldn't stop laughing at her twisted logic.

She continued, "I have pride to uphold. We can't be fighting over bills at our age. It'll be obvious that something is fishy with our relationship. Have you ever seen a married couple fighting over bills on the street?"

Listening to her absurd reasoning, I almost burst into laughter.

Nodding, I said, "You're right. You're married. What's the big deal? Just stop fighting already. It's embarrassing to see you act like this.

As soon as Lauren heard my

teasing, she yelled, "What the hell?

Chloe, shut up! Would I go with him

if you hadn't told me to buy gifts today?"

She stared at me, saying, "Who am I? Do I lack self-control? He said to go to the night market, and I have to follow him?!"

I couldn't control myself, laughing and falling on the bed.

"That's right, who is Lauren? You are exceptionally disciplined. Even if it was a disaster siren, you wouldn't go with him. Who does he think he is?"

As soon as I finished speaking, Lauren, who had been angry for a long time, suddenly laughed.

I laughed, too.

I knew that deep down, she couldn't let go of Oliver.

It was just that he had hurt her too deeply before.

Chapter 1026 Visits from the Worthless

The next day, we set off precisely at ten o'clock to return to Foswood. Once we arrived, we headed straight to the airport to drop them off. The gifts from last night turned out to be perfect.

They both said they would give me a definite answer after returning.

Fred said it wouldn't be long before he came to meet Noah to discuss the factory construction. I told him that it would be no problem.

Back at the company, before we could even think about having a meal, Arnold walked in.

I looked at Arnold. "How did you know we were back?"

He nonchalantly said, "Telepathy, I guess."

Lauren smiled. "Telepathy indeed. If Atlas finds out, he'll give you a piece of his mind."

"I'm not afraid of him." He seemed defiant as he looked at me. "Come on, I'll take you all out to eat something delicious."

Lauren laughed even more. "We should be the ones taking you to a meal."

Just then, Carol walked in. "Ms. Chloe, Ms. Poppy is here to see you."

I raised an eyebrow. Things were getting out of hand. We had just returned, and a bunch of worthless people had showed up. "Poppy?" I said.

Carol nodded.

Arnold asked, "Who's Poppy?"

Lauren whispered, "A celebrity."

Arnold turned to me and asked doubtfully, "How do you even know someone like her?"

I shrugged, then said to Carol, "Let her in."

Carol walked in with Poppy, fully dressed in a hat, mask, and big sunglasses. It was the standard outfit for a celebrity.

Arnold burst into laughter as soon as he saw her dressed like that.

He casually commented, "Am I the weird one here or are celebrities weird? Do you really have so many fans in Foswood? Aren't you hot in that outfit? You probably need to watch out for heat rash."

His words almost made Lauren burst into laughter.

Poppy instantly stiffened as she looked at Arnold. After all, this was my office. She couldn't say anything, even if she was displeased.

I quickly greeted her. "When did you get to Foswood, Ms. Poppy?"

"I came back a few days ago, but I've been busy with work. I didn't have time to visit you." She smiled as she took off her gear. "I finally had some time today, so I came to see you. Long time no see."

The way she said it made it seem like we were close.

I checked the time and said to Arnold, "Didn't you say you were taking us to eat something delicious? Let's go."

Arnold wouldn't mind a few more people coming with us. "Okay! Uh... Is Hana here?"

I was a little surprised, and Lauren was too. She grabbed Arnold and asked, "What? Do you have a target now? This is absurd. Are you trying to use lunch as an excuse to see her?"

Arnold put a charming expression on his face and said mischievously, "No way. Honest to goodness. No one is more important than my friends." "Enough. You're being silly," I said with a smile. I looked at Poppy and said, "If you don't mind, you can join us for lunch."

Poppy immediately responded graciously. "Of course I wouldn't mind. Thank you for the invitation."

"Great!" I turned to Arnold. "Let's go! By the way, Arnold, Hana is on vacation. She went back to visit her family."

"What? She went back to Yare?" he said.

"What did you say?" I immediately asked Arnold. "Where did you say Hana went back to?"

Arnold looked at me skeptically and asked, "Didn't you know Hana's from Yare?"

I was a little uneasy. "Hana's from Yare?"

Chapter 1027 A Little Nervous

Arnold could tell from my expression that I had no idea about this.

I quickly suppressed my emotions.

"Alright, let's discuss this when we get home in the evening. We need to eat. Shall we go?" He said, swaggering toward the exit.

Poppy glanced at me awkwardly. "I hope I'm not intruding."

I quickly collected myself, smiled at her, and said, "Not at all. Let's go. That's my brother. He's quite a character."

Poppy nodded. "Okay, then."

I smiled faintly. "As long as you don't mind."

The three of us followed Arnold downstairs together. Arnold hopped into the Lamborghini parked not far away.

It was a car from Pleca Park's garage.

Arnold usually kept a low profile in Foswood. Archie had set some clear rules. His children were not allowed to be ostentatious, even though the Beringer family had its own business.

Arnold must have known I was back today and deliberately chose to drive this car.

This surprised Poppy. I saw her eyes widen.

Arnold shouted, "Who's riding with me?"

Lauren quickly said, "We'll go in one car. Wait a moment while I get my car."

She turned to me and said, "We'll take mine."

I nodded and waited with Poppy.

I knew Poppy probably wanted to get into the Lamborghini, but I also knew that Arnold might not like it, so I kept my thoughts to myself.

Arnold wasn't in a hurry either. He seemed to be making a call in the car.

Shortly after, Lauren brought her Mercedes to us. I pulled Poppy along with me, and we got into the car together.

In the car, Poppy asked, "Your brother doesn't look a lot like you, Ms. Chloe."

Clearly, she was trying to figure out if he was my real brother.

I didn't hide it. "We're not biologically related."

"Oh... No wonder you don't look alike." Poppy's tone seemed to ease.

Lauren glanced at Poppy in the rearview mirror, looking displeased.

Arnold's car led the way leisurely, and Lauren followed behind effortlessly. He took us to a private clubhouse.

After getting out of the car, Lauren told Arnold, "If I'd known you were talking about this place, we could have gone our separate ways." Arnold chuckled. "My sister didn't know!"

I really didn't. To be honest, my understanding of Foswood had started when I met Lauren.

We had just arrived at the private room Arnold had booked when Atlas appeared at the door.

Poppy's eyes instantly lit up. She smiled gracefully and said softly, "Mr. Atlas, you're here too."

That sentence seemed to make Arnold unhappy, and he glanced at Poppy coldly.

Atlas frowned slightly. He glanced at her and responded with a faint hum before looking at me, extending his hand with a smile. "Have the guests all been sent off?"

"Yeah! Why are you here?" I asked gently.

"He called me." He tilted his chin slightly toward Arnold. "I was

planning on having dinner with net

Let's go pick up Ava after lunch. She was complaining last night."

I laughed. "Really?"

"She even complained to her grandma."

Atlas imitated Ava. I had expected her to behave like this. Since her grandmother returned to the small town, I hadn't been home for more than two days.

I would be home tonight, but I was going to Gerby tomorrow for the factory inspection at Jaxford Doors. I wouldn't be at home again the next night.

Arnold looked at Poppy, who had

been talking to me the whole time, and said, "Why are you just standing there, Miss? There are no rules. You can relax when you're with us. If you're a fan of his, forget it. You won't get a chance to do anything. My sister and brother-in-law are doing fine. Besides, they're already married."

Arnold's words left Poppy stunned. She smiled awkwardly. "You must be joking. I'm just... I'm just a little nervous."

After hearing Arnold's explanation, she hesitated before coming to his side. "I'll sit here and talk to you."

Lauren couldn't help but laugh. "You're being very sarcastic, Arnold. Don't embarrass Ms. Poppy." Arnold shrugged indifferently. "Come on! Have you ever seen a star get embarrassed so easily?"

Chapter 1028 Keep Your Mouth Shut

When Poppy heard those words, she didn't look pleased, but she couldn't refute it.

But even if she felt that way, I didn't think she regretted coming out with us. After all, she had tried to get close to me just to meet Atlas.

But Arnold didn't care whether she felt awkward or not and continued, "If you've been an actress for a long time, you end up acting both on and offstage. I'm sure you're no exception, Ms. Poppy." Arnold looked at Poppy with a playful smile. "Come over to my side. I'm better for you than him. Why bother chasing a married man?"

I chuckled, leaning into Atlas's embrace. "That's enough, Arnold. Ms. Poppy is my friend. Don't cross the line."

"Are you really so naive or are you just pretending, Chlo? She's your friend? If she really is your friend, why is she still interested in your husband?" Arnold continued bluntly. "There's a saying that goes, never dip your pen in company ink. If she's your friend, why is she pining after your husband? Isn't that just courting disaster?"

Lauren was clearly trying to hold back her laughter. Her eyes fixed on me with a triumphant expression.

"It would be a wise choice to come to me, Miss. Why embarrass yourself further? I'm richer than him. You won't get another chance like this. I'm the key to the upper class. Choose wisely."

Just as Arnold finished speaking, the door opened again, revealing Oliver.

Surprised, I immediately looked at Lauren. She had been laughing moments ago, but froze instantly, turning into a statue.

Arnold obviously knew that Oliver would be here, or he wouldn't have said what he did.

"Are you here to pay the bill, Oli?" Arnold teased.

Oliver didn't hold back either. "That's right! I'll pay your bills for a year. Then everyone can see how the Beringer family's youngest son freeloads."

This was the first time I had heard Oliver speak so casually and crack jokes.

"Haha... Are you threatening me? Is freeloading a skill? You're the one who's always eating for free!" Arnold scoffed.

Oliver looked at Lauren, his lips curling up slightly. He took the initiative to stand next to her.

Arnold said snidely, "Looks like we're all freeloaders."

Lauren immediately retorted, "You said you would pay today. Don't be shameless now and go back on your word!"

Arnold laughed. "Are you feeling the pain in your husband's wallet? You've chosen sides pretty quickly. We're all one big happy family, aren't we?" Everyone looked at Lauren, including the clueless Poppy.

Lauren belatedly realized her

mistake and turned red. She clucked her tongue. "Did... Did we order any food? I need to go back to sleep after we eat."

She tried to change the topic.

Arnold looked at Lauren. "You're the one paying, Lauren. You should order."

That sentence made Oliver very pleased. He looked at Lauren and softly said, "It's already been ordered. It'll be here soon."

Lauren looked at Arnold. "I'm telling

you, you'd better keep your mouth shut. Too much talk leads to

mistakes. Be careful, or I'll get your sister to discipline you."

Arnold disdainfully leaned back on the sofa behind him. He casually remarked, "My sister dotes on me. Don't try to pick a fight with me. you de

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don't treat Oli as the main course, I might have to ask him to retreat. Can't you see it? It's right in front of you!"

Oliver immediately looked at Lauren and said, "I won't do that!"

Chapter 1029 Making a Big Deal Out of a Nothing

I watched the flustered Oliver, who immediately stole a glance at Lauren to see her reaction.

I couldn't help but feel the urge to burst into laughter. "Cut the crap, Arnold! Come on, everyone, take a seat!"

I pulled Poppy along with me. After all, she was my guest, too.

As soon as we sat down, the waiter brought the food out.

I saw Poppy look at her phone, trying to conceal her emotions. I glanced at her phone screen and noticed that she was checking Arnold's information.

But I knew there was no information about Ardie and Arnold online.

Still, I understood what she was doing. Poppy seemed desperate to marry into a wealthy family and was always prepared.

I could tell that Atlas had arranged to meet Oliver for something important. But since Poppy was here, it wasn't the right time to discuss anything serious.

I asked Oliver, "What time did you get back?"

Oliver glanced at Atlas. "Atlas called me and said there was something urgent, so I rushed back. Otherwise, I was planning to return the day after tomorrow."

I turned back to Atlas. "How about I get Ava from kindergarten later? You can discuss your business with Oliver."

Atlas shook his head. "It's fine. I'll go with you. It'll make her happy. We can discuss our business any time."

Arnold immediately looked at me and said, "I'll come with you to pick up Ava later. You go deal with your business."

Atlas looked at him. "Just do what you're supposed to do. You don't have to try to steal the spotlight."

Arnold, unyielding, retorted, "The moment you see my sister, you become all full of energy. She's your wife, sure, but she's also my sister. She can love you, but that doesn't stop her from caring for me, does it? You can be domineering, but there should be a limit. You don't own her."

"You said it right. She's mine. Shut up and stop being annoying," Atlas ruthlessly interrupted Arnold. "You should go home tonight."

"No way. My sister asked me to stay at Pleca Park... Chlo!" Arnold seemed genuinely anxious and looked at me for help.

I immediately tried to smooth things over. "That's right. I asked him to stay at Pleca Park."

I still needed to ask him about Denton and Hana. How could I let him go back home?

Arnold regained his confidence as he saw me speak up for him. "You heard that, Atlas."

Atlas glanced at him coldly. "You can stay for three days, but no more."

"Do you have the final say?" Arnold looked at Atlas, taunting him..

Oliver paid no attention to the battle between them. He was wholly focused on serving Lauren and she, in turn, graciously accepted. There was a softness in her eyes that made Oliver seem pleased

Atlas was extremely attentive to me and obedient to my every command, showering me with care. It must have been a boring meal for Poppy.

I tried to give her some attention. "Don't worry about it, Poppy. They're always like this. They pick fights with each other as soon as they meet."

Poppy smiled alluringly, glancing at Atlas. "It's okay, I'm enjoying this."

Arnold immediately offered her some food.

"You'd better not enjoy it too much It seems

awkward. Are people our agevel.net

couple or things will be too

Orth have to act like a

learning to be affectionate now?"

I could sense that Arnold's words held a deeper meaning.

Poppy was quite the cunning one.

She definitely saw the current situation clearly. On one side was Atlas, the dominant figure in the business district, and on the other side was the tycoon of Foswood. en.swhovels.net

As for the guy who never stopped talking, even Oliver seemed to respect him.

Poppy could definitely sense our dynamic. Otherwise, she wouldn't have hurriedly searched for Arnold's information on her phone.

She knew how important this circle was.

She acted dumb and smiled. "Thank you, Young Master Arnold."

"No, stop! Just call me Arnold. Anything else works, just not that. If my dad finds out, he'll definitely give me an earful. Our family has some strict rules."

"I'll call you Arnold, then!" Poppy was being very bold.

I couldn't help but lift my eyes to look at her.

She was making a big deal out of nothing.

Chapter 1030 Thoughtful and Attentive

Arnold immediately countered when he heard Poppy's words. "Arnold sounds too intimate. We're not that close. Just call me Mr. Arnold or something." I looked at Arnold, interrupting him, and said, "Since when did you become so sensitive? You should be grateful I don't just call you 'hey'."

My remark made everyone burst into laughter.

Oliver rarely smiled so openly in public. He was probably feeling content since Lauren was sitting beside him.

When Poppy saw everyone laugh so cheerfully, she naturally relaxed as well. However, she occasionally glanced at Atlas, who treated her like air. I didn't approve of her behavior.

As Arnold said, she was playing her role. She would face her own embarrassment sooner or later. I was confident about that.

Lauren seemed to be enjoying this meal. She didn't reject Oliver's attentions, which made him more thoughtful and attentive.

After the meal, Atlas and Oliver went to the balcony to talk.

Arnold asked me, "When do you plan on going back to the capital? Should I go with you? I have some business to discuss with our father."

I thought about the last meeting between Jason and Robin and looked at Arnold. "I do need to visit the capital. Dad wants me to bring Ava with me. We should go soon, or it'll get too cold. I'm afraid Ava won't be able to handle it. Besides, I want to get Dad some winter clothes."

"How about next week?" Arnold suggested.

"I have a business trip tomorrow. I'll be gone for at least two days," I grumbled.

Poppy immediately asked, "Where are you going?"

"Gerby."

Lauren, who hadn't spoken until now, said, "Isn't Gerby where Beatrice is, Chloe?"

I nodded, "Yeah, but I might not have time to see her. I really did want to visit that mental hospital."

Arnold's ears perked up. "What's going on?"

I glanced at him. "A classmate of mine is in a mental hospital, probably due to problems with her family. The situation is complicated. I suspect she's not even sick." "She's not sick?" Arnold and Poppy asked in unison.

"I'll go with you, Chlo. One of my classmates in Gerby is a cop. Maybe he can help," Arnold suggested.

"Really?" I was surprised. That might actually be helpful.

"But don't tell Atlas. Otherwise, he definitely won't let me go. He might even go with you," Arnold cautioned me.

"I won't lie to him," I said. I would discuss it with him.

Arnold looked dejected. "What if he doesn't let me go?"

"No way! As long as I say yes, he'll definitely agree," I assured him.

"If Atlas finds out what you just said, Arnold, you'll be in big trouble." Lauren said, pointing at him.

Arnold also felt that he had let something slip. He looked at me and said, "My sister won't betray me, right?" Before I could speak, Lauren intervened. "Ha... That depends on your performance!"

"When did you become so vengeful, Lauren?" He looked at Lauren, hesitating.

I knew that Arnold wasn't the type to hold back, but he had a sense of propriety when outsiders were around.

"I'll talk to him tonight." I changed the topic. "We're going to go get Ava. Let's go. Grandma will be anxious."

As soon as I finished speaking, Atlas and Oliver walked in together.

Atlas reached out his hand to me. "Let's go! We'll go pick up our daughter!"

I looked at Arnold and said, "We're a

little

can

from the city, Arnold. Y

Ms. Poppy back. We

straight home after picking Ava up."

"Okay." Arnold stood up and looked at Poppy. "Let's go!"

Poppy smiled without any reservations and hurriedly followed behind Arnold. She seemed to have been waiting for this moment.

We got into the car without paying any attention to Lauren and Oliver and headed straight to the kindergarten.

In the rearview mirror, I saw Poppy sitting in the Lamborghini happily. Arnold drove fast and disappeared instantly.

We arrived at the kindergarten a little

early. Ava was ecstatic to see that

we were both here to pick her up." She ran towards us, asking, "Why are you both here today?"

She looked at me and Atlas, laughing with joy.

But just as

school

Shareached out to take her

I bag, her face gradually sank.

Her

s stared at somet

she froze without blinking.