

Ex Convict 511

Chapter 511

Grace's eyes widened, and Jason immediately knew he was right when he saw her reaction.

"Which intimate moment?" His voice, softer than ever, seemed to sway over her heart like a feather. "Was it that night? Were you thinking about that night?" Boom!

Grace immediately felt as if her face was on fire. A look of embarrassment and shyness came over her face, and she almost wanted to bury herself.

However, his fingers were still under her chin, making it impossible for her to turn away.

The way she blushed struck him as indescribably cute. Her misty eyes kept avoiding his gaze, but she did not know that the way she looked would only further arouse the man's desire to possess her.

If they were not in the car right now and if they were not about to arrive at the party, he probably would not have been able to resist...

"Are you shy? What is there to be shy about?" His fingers brushed gently against her hot cheek. "Isn't it natural for men and women to be attracted to each other?"

His scent surrounded her. His voice rang in her ears like some kind of spell, constantly attracting her. "Were you happy that night?"

Her face was terribly hot, but when she looked into his serious eyes, she was startled. He was asking the question very seriously.

Her answer was important to him!

Even though the answer was a little difficult for her to say, she still followed her heart and replied, "Yes, I was happy."

There was a smile on his lips, and it was beautiful...

"I was happy too, so you'll want me again, won't you?" he asked softly, his dark eyes burning with an inconceivable desire.

The burning desire was just because of her.

She stared at him, feeling as if she was going to get lost in his smile.

Would she want to? Would she want him again?

The madness of that night came back to her, especially his murmurs and gasps that rang in her ears. It was as if he was

deliberately trying to please and satisfy her... It was as if he was doing everything to make her infatuated with him.

How could she not want him?

Though she was embarrassed, Grace nodded her head.

Jason's smile suddenly became more obvious. "All right, I'll give you anything you want."

If she wanted it, he would give her everything he had.

She was the only one in the world who could make him do this, and she was the only one who could make him love this way.

He had never thought that one day he would love someone so much. Now that he had really fallen in love though, he found himself to be willing.

He willingly fell in love with her and would willingly kneel before her just to get her affection.

Chapter 512

When the car arrived at the venue of the banquet, Jason walked in while holding Grace's hand.

Naturally, hundreds of eyes were focused on Grace. After all, Jason would always be in the center of attention, and as everyone in Emerald City knew, this was the first time Jason had a woman next to him in more than three years.

Even Jennifer Atkinson, who attended several public occasions with Jason previously, was never seen holding his hand. However, Jason had been holding Grace's hand ever since they entered.

Quite a few of Emerald City's socialites attended the banquet today. Most of them knew about Jason.

After all, although Jason was famous for being celibate in Emerald City and had not been romantically involved with anyone since Jennifer Atkinson's death, these ladies were still eager to try and approach him.

However, no one dared to take the first step. After all, it was no secret in their circle how badly a woman would end up if she played tricks to get close to Jason.

At the very least, they thought that Jason was still single.

However, now there was a woman next to him. They were behaving intimately too!

No one knew exactly who the woman was, but her outfit looked so imposing that several socialites had already

recognized Grace's gown to be a limited edition garment

from a brand that ordinary people could not afford. Only the highest-ranking VIPs were eligible to buy a gown like this.

It made these people envious and jealous.

Grace followed Jason around and watched him chat with

some of Emerald City's gentry. He introduced her, "This is my girlfriend, Grace."

This simple sentence carried a lot of weight.

Jason's introduction confirmed Grace's identity, so to speak.

No one in Emerald City's high society would dare to look down.

on Grace from now on.

Just then, there was another faint uproar in the direction of the banquet's entrance. Grace turned around only to see two figures coming in. They were immediately surrounded by others.

She knew both of them.

Brian and her half-sister, Evelyn.

Speaking of which, it had been some time since she had seen.

Evelyn. She had only seen some of Evelyn's gossip when she read the news online.

From the news, everyone could see that Evelyn had good resources now since Brian was helping her out. Many people were even speculating that Evelyn might date Brian for no more than three months before she was dumped.

However, three months later, Evelyn was still Brian's girlfriend. This slapped those onlookers in the face.

As a result, some people on the internet said that the entertainment industry's crown prince was finally captured by Cinderella. Evelyn had also gained popularity from this.

Today, Evelyn looked quite like an actress, dressed in a dark red evening gown and with her red lipstick on. Brian, who was beside her, was dressed in a navy blue suit. His handsome face was still a little indifferent, exuding an air of alienation.

Although the crown prince had been changing girlfriends one after another and giving people the impression of a playboy, judging from just his appearance, no one would consider a man like him a playboy.

Chapter 513

He was more ruthless than passionate.

Did someone like him have anything important to him? As soon as the thought flashed through Grace's mind, she

somehow remembered Brian's silver bracelet.

It was because of the silver bracelet that she knew Brian.

The bracelet was obviously for children, but Brian treated it like it was a piece of treasure. What exactly was the story behind the bracelet?

"Who are you looking at?" A low and elegant voice suddenly rang in Grace's ears.

She immediately came to her senses, and when she turned around, her lips narrowly missed Jason's. Then, she realized that his face was so close to hers that she had almost kissed him.

Jason's thin lips parted as he whispered, "No matter who you're looking at, the person in your heart can only be me."

As he spoke, he looked past her to the figure standing at the entrance.

Brian was a childhood friend. Jason did not expect that one day they would be interested in the same woman. The only difference was that now he had gotten Grace's heart, but Brian did not know that the person he had been looking for was actually Grace.

Of course, if he could, he would never let Brian know.

When Jason looked at Brian, Brian seemed to sense something. He shot his gaze to Jason's direction and they made eye contact.

A moment later, Brian took Evelyn and walked slowly toward Jason.

The moment he saw Grace, Brian was struck with awe. She looked different than before. Her black hair was plaited in a style that was both elegant and lively while her refined makeup made her look so attractive.

Under the lights, her bright almond-shaped eyes seemed to glow with a gleam. They were bright, yet they seemed to have a certain fortitude. In a trance, he vaguely saw the little girl's eyes again.

That same little girl had looked at him with the same look in her eyes before saying, "Don't be afraid, I'm here. I'll get you out of here."

That little figure eventually did it. She led him step by step away from the dangerous place.

When he sprained his ankle, he thought she would escape

without him, but she carried him on her back and insisted on taking him with her.

He was given hope amid despair, and it was a feeling he would probably never forget.

“Brian,” Evelyn cried a little uneasily when she saw Brian looking at Grace.

Grace had taken Evelyn by surprise today. She thought her outfit would be enough to make her the focus of the banquet today. After all, it was not cheap and was a lot better than many of the dresses on the socialites present.

However, looking at Grace’s gown, Evelyn felt jealousy brewing within her. What made her even more uncomfortable was that the Grace today made her feel like she was seeing the same person she used to be-the radiant, promising female lawyer. On the other hand, she was just a small

actress.

Chapter 514

It had been a long time since she felt this way. Even though

she knew that Grace was with Jason, she did not think that

Grace had beaten her. After all, she was Brian’s official

girlfriend.

However, Evelyn now felt that she was being outdone.

Brian came back to his senses and said to Grace, “It seems

quite a coincidence to see you again.”

“Hello,” Grace responded simply.

Brian turned his eyes to Jason. “I didn’t expect you to be here today.”

“I brought Grace here to show her around. After all, there

are some people she is bound to know someday,” Jason said lightly. However, there was just too much information in that

one sentence.

Evelyn was shocked. What did he mean by ‘bound to know’? Was Jason... hinting that he would marry Grace someday?

Evelyn felt another pang of jealousy at the thought of this, but she put on a smile and said, “Long time no see, Sis. Speaking

of which, I’ve been wanting to apologize to you. Mom and Dad had no ill intentions, but they mishandled the matter regarding your mother’s grave. There was a misunderstanding, so they said the

wrong thing. Don't take it seriously, Sis. Dad misses you a lot these days. Why don't you go home and visit him when you're free?"

Evelyn's words were very condescending as if it had really all been a misunderstanding.

Grace smiled a little. "There's no need to apologize. After all, it's none of your business, is it? What do you want to apologize for?"

She said it lightly, but it made Evelyn a little speechless for a moment. She could only look like she was wronged.

Brian only glanced at Evelyn, slightly frowning. He did not know what the sisters were talking about, but it was clearly nothing good.

"All right, you're tired. I'll take you over there to rest," said Jason as he turned to Grace.

"Sure," Grace responded with a sweet smile.

The smile made Brian fall into a trance.

Just as Grace was about to leave, Brian could not help reaching out and grabbing Grace's wrist.

Grace stopped in her tracks. She looked strangely at her wrist that was in Brian's hand, then at Brian. "Mr. Hart?"

It was only then that Brian recovered from his trance. What was wrong with him? The person in front of him was not the one he was looking for. He knew that, but when she was about to leave earlier, he seemed to have traveled back to the old days. The little girl had also smiled and told him to take good care of his wound. She said that they would meet soon.

However, after he let go of her hand, they never saw each other again.

Many times, he had dreamed of seizing the hand and not wanting to let go. Many times, he had woken up regretting why he let her go back then. If he had not let go, perhaps she would still be with him right now.

Brian knew that he should release her hand, but his hand seemed to go against his will. He continued to hold her hand, refusing to release it.

Just then, another hand grabbed Brian's wrist.

"Brian, I think you'd better let go. I don't like to see another man grabbing my girlfriend's wrist like that," Jason's voice rang coldly, and his bright amorous eyes were icy cold.

Brian had known Jason for many years, so he knew Jason well.

He might look indifferent sometimes as his gaze was usually casual and unconcerned. However, it was not the same now. His eyes were cold, and Brian felt pain shooting up from his wrist.

Chapter 515

Brian even had a hunch that if he did not let go, Jason might just break his wrist.

There was really no need to fall out with Jason for a mere woman. After all, Grace was not the one he was looking for. Had he not figured it out earlier?

Brian lowered his eyes before loosening his fingers with a faint smile, and Grace's wrist was instantly free.

"I'm sorry, I seem to have forgotten my manners just now. Miss Cummins reminded me of an old friend," said Brian.

"She's not your old friend. Don't forget your manners again," Jason said coldly before grabbing Grace's hand and leaving.

Brian's eyes were clouded as he looked at Grace's departing back, Evelyn, who was beside Brian, wanted to scream.

Was she not? She should be! If the portrait she saw in Brian's studio was indeed the old friend Brian was referring to, then she was certain that the girl was Grace.

She remembered the dress Grace wore, what the little girl in the portrait looked like, and the silver bracelet Brian

treasured. All these led to Grace.

However, she would keep it to herself and never let it out.

"Didn't you say you were going to introduce me to some producers today, Brian?" asked Evelyn, breaking the silence.

Brian glanced at the person standing beside him as the cloud in his eyes turned into indifference. He smiled and said, "All right, I'll introduce them to you now."

With that, Brian led Evelyn to the other side.

Evelyn held Brian's arm, but she somehow felt uneasy.

Even though she was his girlfriend and even though she felt that she was close to him, he exuded a sense of alienation. That made it seem impossible to close in the distance between them completely.

One day, she would bring him to his knees! She wanted to be somebody, she wanted to be better than everybody else!

Jason took Grace to a more secluded place.

"You must be tired, sit down for a while," said Jason as he made her sit down on the sofa.

"I'm fine," she said. Though she was nervous as she had not been to banquets like this for a long time, she was more

worried about what Brian did earlier.

"Do you want something to eat?" he asked.

Before Grace could answer, someone came over and said, "Is this your girlfriend, Jason? Won't you introduce me?"

Grace looked up and saw a man about Jason's age approaching her. Although he was dressed in a suit, the smile on his baby face made him likable.

Jason glanced at him, then said to Grace, "This is my friend, Patrick."

Chapter 516

It's rare for Grace to hear Jason call someone a friend, so

Patrick was probably close to him. "Hello, I'm Grace."

Grace introduced herself gracefully.

"Hello, I've wanted to meet you for a long time now, but I haven't had a chance," Patrick said with a smile. After all, he had always been curious about the woman who managed to capture his best friend's heart.

On the eve of the Lunar New Year, Patrick was shocked and intrigued by the fact that his best friend brought a group of police officers to the town next to Emerald City for her. He even left Old Master Reed behind for her.

Now, after meeting Grace, Patrick thought that even though she was not stunningly beautiful, her eyes gave people a sense of comfort-it was gentle and relaxing.

Standing alongside Grace, Jason also seemed more relaxed than usual.

Patrick immediately understood why his best friend fell in love with Grace. People like them were often in a treacherous environment where the people around them were more

hypocritical than sincere. Although they were high up in the pecking order, the slightest mistake might cause them to fall and break into pieces. Therefore, even if one looked relaxed most of the time, they were actually tense.

Grace's calm temperament could make others feel relaxed, and that made it all the more precious.

"By the way, when I came over, there were some people over

there discussing the internet situation this year. You want to

get involved?" Patrick asked Jason. As soon as he mentioned the names of the people in the discussion, she immediately

recognized them as internet bigwigs.

These were people she would not normally get to meet, but now, they were at the same banquet as her.

Jason was obviously interested as soon as he heard what his

friend said, but then he turned and looked at Grace. "Do you want to join?"

"No, I won't understand what they're talking about anyway. Why don't you go? I'll just rest here," answered Grace.

"All right." Jason nodded. "About the food..."

"I'll take some myself, don't worry," Grace said with a smile.

Patrick looked at the proud friend he had known since

childhood in shock. Jason was now acting like her mother,

telling Grace not to take the wine because of its strong alcohol content, to be careful when she walked so that she would not fall, and even to ask the waiter to get the food for her if she did not want to get it herself...

Patrick almost thought the person in front of him was only someone who looked like Jason.

It seemed that Jason was so afraid of Grace choking on her food and falling on her feet that he wished he could hold her in the palm of her hand.

If others saw this, their eyes would probably pop out. When had Emerald City's most difficult Young Master Reed treated

a woman this way?

It was like he wanted to wait on the woman.

As the two men walked away from Grace, Patrick said, "I've

never seen you treat a woman this way. Are you serious about her?"

"Yes." Jason admitted it readily.

Patrick's eyes immediately widened at his confession. "You mean it?"

Jason glanced at him. "Do I have to tell you a lie?"

Gulp!

Chapter 517

Patrick gulped the saliva in his mouth. All right, it was obvious that Grace, whom he had just met, would one day marry into the Reed family and become their mistress.

"Well, she's really lucky then," muttered Patrick.

"I'm the lucky one," Jason let out a whisper. Perhaps it would be more accurate to say that her misfortune had made him lucky.

If the accident had not happened, she might have married Sean Stevens and bore his child by now. She would not have met him the way they did and he would not know that it was such a pleasant thing to be by her side.

Patrick was shocked when he heard this.

He was only thinking of one thing at this moment-Jason had really fallen for Grace!

Grace took a glass of champagne from the waiter and drank

1. It had a low alcohol content and a fruity taste. It tasted pretty good.

However, she could not take too much of it. She was not a good drinker. She would get drunk easily if she drank too much.

She looked around as she sipped her champagne. She could hear the sound of people toasting as she looked around at the successful people present. She used to be a part of this society. She had talked to some of these upper-class people and hoped to meet more as it would be good for her career in the future.

Back in those days, she would dress up meticulously when attending banquets and try her best to talk to others. She

feared that she would embarrass Sean Stevens when she stood next to him, so she wanted to make sure that it would not happen.

However, looking back on it now made her feel like that had been centuries ago.

Just then, several women came up to Grace. Their leader said, "You're Jason's date today, aren't you?"

Grace raised her head and recognized that the women were all famous socialites in Emerald City. She had seen them in

some gossip magazines.

To put it more accurately, she did not recognize these women

simply because she had read about them in gossip magazines but because she used to go out of her way to collect

information about Emerald City's socialites so as to not

embarrass Sean Stevens whenever she went out with him.

Among the three women before her, one was the granddaughter of a jewelry tycoon, one was the daughter of

a chairman of a convenience store chain, and the other was

the granddaughter of an owner of a famous five-star hotel in Emerald City.

Of course, the most famous of the three was the

granddaughter of the jewelry tycoon, Elsie Jordan. She was beautiful and proud. She usually had many suitors, but she did not seem to fancy anyone.

Elsie Jordan once told the media, "The man I like is of course.

the best. Otherwise, I'd rather not date."

During that time, many media speculated that the man Elsie Jordan liked was probably Jason. However, Jason and Jennifer Atkinson got engaged not long after that, so the rumors about Elsie Jordan and Jason naturally faded away.

Grace's heart sank a little as she thought of Jennifer Atkinson.

"Yes, I am," she said as she stood up, knowing in her heart that these three women were not here with good intentions.

"I'm Elsie Jordan. What's your name?" Elsie Jordan said with a smile on her face as if she was here to make friends with her.

Grace did not think she would want to be friends with her, but

it was inappropriate not to answer her, so she politely replied,

"Grace"

Chapter 518

"By the way, I wonder what your relationship is with Jason? Why don't you tell us and satisfy our curiosity?" asked Elsie Jordan.

Grace smiled and said, "That's personal, and I don't think it's convenient to tell you."

As soon as she said this, the three women suddenly took on a ghastly expression. Tasha Farmer, the daughter of a chairman of a convenience store chain, immediately said, "That's not a very nice thing to say. Is there something shameful in the story that you dare not tell us?"

Grace's face darkened a little. There it was... Even though she wanted to avoid it, she could not.

Felicia Kemp, the granddaughter of a five-star hotel owner, stared at Grace's face with a slight frown. She looked as if she was thinking about something.

Tasha Farmer continued to probe aggressively, "Could it be that you played some tricks to get involved with Jason?"

Grace pursed her lips slightly. "Sorry, I've got something to do, so I need to go," she said and tried to leave.

These three women were obviously here to find fault with her. She would only be picked on more if she continued to stay here. The best way was to avoid them.

She wanted to avoid them, but they would not let her.

Tasha Farmer stood in front of her and said, "What are you leaving for? Why don't you answer our question first? There's nothing to hide. If you don't have something to hide, why don't you just tell us?"

Grace raised her eyes and looked at the woman in front of her. She knew that today's events might not end well. Since there was no way to avoid them, she just had to face it.

"Miss Farmer, isn't it? Aren't there rumors going around lately about your family's convenience store chain evading taxes? If I'm not mistaken, this matter is being looked into by the tax bureau, am I right? Why don't you tell me what's going on? Are you and your family evading taxes? If it's a misunderstanding, how did it come about? By the way, I've also heard that the tax bureau officer handling this case is related to your family. Why don't you tell us what kind of relationship is it? There's nothing to hide, so you probably won't mind telling us about it."

Grace's words immediately made Tasha Farmer's face turn pale. After all, the revelation of tax evasion had been the most

embarrassing thing for her family these days, and they were trying their best to put those rumors to rest.

Today, she had come to the banquet for the purpose of getting help from Elsie Jordan and Felicia Kemp. Their families had many connections with the tax bureau. If they would help, it would be easy for her family to settle the matter.

Now that Grace had said so, how could she answer those questions?

“Who the hell are you to ask me that?” Tasha Farmer glared at Grace, feeling offended.

Grace sneered. “Who the hell are you then? I guess you have double standards with your ‘nothing to hide!’. What law says I

have to tell you about myself?”

“You...” People usually treated Tasha Farmer with honor and respect. When had anyone treated her so badly? She raised.

her hand to slap Grace, but Grace raised her hand and waved it away.

Grace turned around. She did not want to stay any longer to avoid this matter from escalating. Just then, Felicia Kemp, who had been silent all along, shouted, “I remember now. You’re Sean Stevens’s ex-girlfriend, aren’t you? You killed Jason’s fiancée, Jennifer Atkinson, in an accident...”

Even Felicia Kemp found it unbelievable as she continued.

The person responsible for Jennifer Atkinson’s death was now dating Jason?!

Chapter 519

Tasha Farmer and Elsie Jordan were surprised to hear this.

Tasha Farmer suddenly laughed. “I thought you were someone important, but it turns out that you’re a murderer. Does Jason know that you’re the one who killed Jennifer

Atkinson?”

Tasha Farmer could not wait to see the expression on Grace’s face when Jason found out that Grace was the culprit in the car accident.

In her opinion, Jason must be in the dark about this. Otherwise, how could he let Grace show up so glamorously as

his date at the banquet?

Elsie Jordan pursed her lips into a smile. “By the way, Sean Stevens is also in attendance today. I even saw him and Lily just now. How about we let you ex-couples meet?”

Tasha Farmer got excited at this though. She immediately looked around the venue. As it happened, Sean Stevens and

Lily were not far away.

Tasha Farmer shouted in their direction, "Your ex-girlfriend is here, Sean Stevens. Won't you come and meet her?"

Tasha Farmer's voice was not soft. It was not just Sean

Stevens, but even the people around them heard her. The guests immediately looked in their direction.

Tasha Farmer clearly wanted to see Grace make a fool of herself by doing so.

Sean Stevens was stunned and turned his head to follow.

the sound. Then, he saw Grace in a lilac-colored gown. He immediately had a faraway look in his eyes.

She looked classy and elegant today. Her delicate makeup and hairdo made him feel like he was looking at the person she used to be three and a half years ago.

No, she was even more beautiful than before. She had gone through a lot over the years. After all that had happened, her claws were not drawn in, but there was an air of calmness about her that made people feel comfortable.

Why was... Grace here?! Did Jason bring her here? However, why was Jason not with her now?

A series of questions flashed through Sean Stevens's mind.

When Lily, who was standing next to Sean Stevens, saw the faraway look on his face, her eyes glistened slightly. Then, she smiled and said, "Let's go over, Sean."

Sean Stevens responded as he seemed to come to his senses suddenly. Then, he walked over to Grace with Lily.

"I didn't expect to see you here," Sean Stevens said with a somewhat wry smile as he walked up to Grace.

"There's a lot more you didn't expect." Before Grace could answer, Tasha Farmer seemed to be motivated by a desire to see the world in chaos. She said, "Your ex-girlfriend is brought here today by Jason. It seems that your ex-girlfriend is getting along better without you, Sean Stevens."

Tasha Farmer had meant to mock Grace, but it was Lily's face that paled instead.

Elsie Jordan saw his reaction and hurriedly smoothed things over. "Don't mind her, Lily. Tasha just speaks whatever's on her mind sometimes. She didn't mean to embarrass you."

Chapter 520

"Yes," Felicia Kemp also helped by saying, "This woman has no shame. I don't know what she did to cheat Jason. Jason probably doesn't even know that this woman has been to prison."

When Lily and Sean Stevens heard this, their eyes flashed with.

surprise. Sean Stevens tried to say something, but Lily gave.

Sean Stevens a nudge, implying him not to say anything.

Grace just felt that there were more and more people looking at her, and many had heard what Tasha Farmer and the rest said earlier. They now looked at her with a mixture of surprise, disdain, and sarcasm. It was as if they were watching a show.

Grace sighed to herself. After all, she could not change what had happened to her.

Not wanting to be laughed at again, Grace turned around and once again tried to leave.

However, just after she had taken two steps, her body suddenly gave a jolt as she heard a ripping sound.

Grace turned around and saw that the hem of her gown had been stepped on by one of Tasha Farmer's high heels. One

side of the gown's hem was ripped. If she had not stopped in time, the gown would have been pulled down by the force of Tasha Farmer's shoe, and she would have been even more humiliated.

Tasha Farmer gave a proud smirk before putting on an act. "Oops, I'm so sorry that I stepped on your gown. How about this? You can have the dress mended and I'll pay for it. However, if you think about it, you probably won't get a chance to wear this kind of gown again. It'll only be a waste of effort mending it!"

Grace just looked at Tasha Farmer coldly, and it terrified Tasha Farmer a little. It was as if Grace was not embarrassed at all. Instead, it was Tasha Farmer who felt like a clown while Grace looked like a princess.

'Bah! She's only an ex-convict. What kind of princess is she?' thought Tasha Farmer as she looked at Grace with more hostility and disdain.

Elsie Jordan and Felicia Kemp were smiling with their lips closed, obviously having a good laugh at Grace.

Sean Stevens had a gleam of pity in his eyes even though he resented Grace for causing the car accident in the first place. After all, the car accident almost affected the Stevens family.

She was the woman he had once loved.

However, with Lily by his side now, he could not do anything.

Just then, a figure came into Sean Stevens's view. If it was in the past, Sean Stevens would have been horrified to see him,

but now, he was somehow relieved.

Perhaps his appearance was Grace's best guarantee.

"What's the matter?" a voice rang out, and Grace turned her head to see Jason walking over with Patrick at his side.

As Jason approached, he saw Tasha Farmer's foot on the hem of Grace's torn gown. How could he not understand what had happened? His face immediately darkened.

Tasha Farmer saw Jason's darkened face and lamely raised

her foot. She was about to say something when Jason raised his hand and swung her away.

She was unsteady on her feet. She staggered a little before falling to the ground.

Jason looked at Grace and asked, "What happened?"