

Extraordinary 851

[Chapter 851 Shooting With Ashlyn](#)

All of those shots hit the exact same spot as they penetrated the wooden target.

The employees in charge of replacing the targets were so shocked that they froze with their mouths open.

Smoke was coming out of the barrel of Ashlyn's gun. She was about to swap it out for her sniper rifle when a good-looking couple made their way over.

The sight of a tall, handsome man and a curvy, beautiful woman was bound to gain a lot of attention from those in the area.

"Whoa! You nailed every single one of those shots, Boss!" the man said with an eyebrow arched as they stood in front of her.

"Why are you so surprised, Jared? It's not like you haven't seen Boss in action before. She's the only person capable of booking this entire place for herself!" said the woman while playing with her hazel-colored hair.

She looked incredibly cute from head to toe with her big, round eyes, pink lolita-themed dress, and shiny leather shoes.

Her pink dress complemented her fair skin and baby face, and she maintained a sweet smile no matter what Jared said.

Cassandra Jensen's cute appearance formed a huge contrast with the environment around her.

"Are you in a bad mood, Boss?" Cassandra asked with an adorable smile on her face.

"Nonsense! Boss isn't weak like others. Do you really think those comments are able to affect her mood so easily?" Jared said with an eyebrow arched.

"Look at that! All of her shots went right through the center of the target!" Cassandra exclaimed while pointing at the target that Ashlyn shot at.

It wasn't until Jared took a closer look at the bullet holes on the target that he gasped in shock. "Whoa! You're amazing, Boss!"

They had all received extensive training in the use of firearms, so shooting was a piece of cake for them.

Even so, Jared knew full well that his accuracy was nowhere near Ashlyn's level.

I could easily hit the bull's eye, but hitting the exact same spot with each shot is definitely out of the question for me! I mean, that's such a tiny hole to shoot through! How does Boss do it?

Cassandra was a lot calmer in comparison. "Boss sure is amazing as always. By the way, have you come up with a plan to help Boss resolve this crisis?" she asked with her hands in the pockets of her dress.

"I do, but I'll need Boss' approval before I can do anything further. This whole incident is utterly ridiculous. Who does that insignificant little celebrity think she is? How dare she blame this all on Boss? I bet that conflict at the event was all planned in advance! It must have been a set-up all along!" Jared exclaimed angrily.

Cassandra let out a disdainful snort. "That piece of trash sure has some guts trying to come after Boss like that. Does she really think we're a bunch of pushovers or something? You know what? I'll investigate this matter thoroughly!"

Jared resisted the urge to laugh as he said with a straight face, "Really? You're going to investigate this? You know, I can lend you a hand if you'd like!"

"Oh, spare me that nonsense! I find out that someone has been messing with Boss the moment I came back! I'm in a very bad mood right now!" Cassandra exclaimed.

Ashlyn paused whatever she was doing and shifted her gaze toward the two of them.

"Come on, shoot with me."

"I-I think I'll pass, Boss..." Jared said with a conflicted expression.

Nothing good comes out of competing against Boss!

Cassandra, on the other hand, got incredibly excited when she heard that. "Sure thing!"

Jared watched on in silence as Cassandra picked up a gun from the side and made her way over to Ashlyn. "Here I come, Boss!"

"Go ahead," Ashlyn said while loading a fresh set of bullets into the magazine.

[Chapter 852 Crushed In A Friendly Match](#)

Not wanting to participate in this, Jared quietly made his way over to the couch in the back.

The shooting range was usually crowded with the wealthy, young people of Lake City.

As such, it was rather strange seeing it so empty.

Cassandra wasn't all that surprised, though.

After all, she knew that Ashlyn was a woman of few words and had a preference for quiet places.

“So, shall we play by the usual rules, Boss? You give me a one-round head start, and we compare our total score after six shots?” Cassandra asked while tuning her gun.

Because of how ridiculously skilled Ashlyn was, her subordinates would always ask for a one-round head start when competing against her.

Even with the head start, they were never able to beat her at shooting.

“Yeah,” Ashlyn replied casually without giving it much thought.

Cassandra shuddered when she saw Ashlyn's response. Boss just agreed to my request without any hesitation whatsoever! She must've improved a lot, then!

“Wait, no! You need to be blindfolded, Boss! I won't compete unless you shoot while blindfolded!” she exclaimed shamelessly.

Ashlyn shot her a nonchalant glance as she took the blindfold over.

Instead of feeling ashamed of her ridiculous request, Cassandra said in the most matter-of-fact tone possible, “You have only your insane shooting skills to blame, Boss! I don't stand a chance of winning at all! I know I'm not as good as you are, but I want to win at least once! Will you please just put this on? You'll definitely miss some shots if you can't see the target, right?”

Ashlyn knew that the blindfold wouldn't stop her from winning, but she decided to play along since Cassandra had begged her to.

“I will teach you the definition of despair,” she said with a faint smile.

What did she just say to me?

Hearing that only caused Cassandra to become even more excited. “Oh, I won't lose! There's no way I'd lose!”

Boss can't possibly win if she can't even see the target! I'll be able to beat Boss for sure!

“I'll go first!” Cassandra said with a serious look on her face while holding her gun up.

Bang!

The bullet hit the target right on the bull's eye, scoring her ten points.

“Haha! I think I'm doing great today, Boss!” Cassandra exclaimed with a gleeful grin.

Ashlyn took one glance at the target before putting her blindfold on and straightening her posture.

Because she was 1.7 meters, she was a lot taller than most other women out there.

Cassandra, on the other hand, looked like a child with her baby face and short stature. That resulted in a huge contrast between them, especially when they were standing next to each other.

Ashlyn was exuding such a powerful aura that Cassandra felt as though the air had frozen up.

Bang!

The bullet hit the bull's eye and went right through the target, scoring her ten points as well.

Cassandra couldn't help but feel a little depressed when she saw that.

Regardless, she knew how good Ashlyn was at shooting, so it wasn't all that surprising.

Cassandra then fired another shot, but she only scored nine points this time.

“I'll take care of the rumors online about you killing Kelly, so you don't have to worry about a thing,” Cassandra said casually while keeping her eyes on Ashlyn.

Ashlyn maintained a neutral expression as she fired four consecutive shots, finishing off the remaining rounds in her gun.

The corner of Cassandra's lips twitched when she saw that all those shots had hit the exact same spot, leaving only one hole on the target.

What the... Unbelievable! This is no fun at all!

“Hey, Boss! Can't you go easy on me for once?”

Ashlyn remained silent.

“You may rest assured that I'll investigate this matter thoroughly and get you the justice you deserve, Boss!” Cassandra continued.

Ashlyn then removed the blindfold, revealing her icy-cold gaze as she pursed her rosy-red lips.

[Chapter 853 Preparing To Launch A Counterattack](#)

“Investigate Kelly's death. Also, did you manage to find anything regarding the fire at Imperial Hotel?” she asked while tossing the blindfold aside.

"It was indeed the doing of ZZ Organization's men. They seem to be targeting you and Mr. Nolan, Boss. As for Kelly's death, I have confirmed that it was caused by a poison from ZZ Organization. It's possible that the man who pretended to be a police officer had his fingers coated with a colorless and odorless poison. He must've taken the antidote beforehand. Kelly died shortly after he got the poison on her body."

"Why would ZZ Organization go through so much trouble to kill a small-time celebrity? Kelly is a C-list celebrity, right? What could make her worthy of such an assassination by ZZ Organization?" Ashlyn asked in confusion.

"I took a look at Kelly's house. There were signs of someone rummaging through her stuff, so it's possible that they were looking for something. I'm not sure what that item is, but we know for a fact that ZZ Organization must've wanted it really badly," Cassandra replied.

"Let Nolan Group take care of the reconstruction of Imperial Hotel. We have to get our revenge on them. Also, I want you to keep a close eye on Dixon and report anything suspicious to me as soon as possible," Ashlyn said while massaging her aching forehead.

Ugh... I feel terrible... Kelly's death, Howard's death, the fire at Imperial Hotel, and Lucas' illness... Why are all these problems coming one after another? It's as though the world is trying to pull me under!

After taking a deep breath to pull herself together, Ashlyn asked, "Dixon is going to make a deal at The Peacock tomorrow. Did you manage to find any information on that?"

Realizing that he was finally able to join in on the conversation, Jared said, "It's a diversion. I think Sienna is going to throw a birthday party for some woman tomorrow."

Ashlyn's lips curled into a sneer. "Is that so? Looks like I'll have to throw a party tomorrow as well!"

"If I recall correctly, tomorrow is also your birthday, right?" Jared asked nervously.

Oh, my goodness! Is Boss about to launch a counterattack?

The sky was bright and sunny when Ashlyn headed over to The Peacock the next day.

Jared, Cassandra, and Luigi followed closely behind her as she made her way inside.

The Peacock ranked second before Imperial Hotel went up in flames.

With Imperial Hotel out of the picture, business was booming for The Peacock all of a sudden.

It was located in the busiest part of the city, which helped bring in even more customers.

One would always find lots of luxury cars in the area, and that day was no different. The crowd could often be heard gasping in shock as the cars pulled up outside the building, each more extravagant than the last.

Naturally, a grand event such as this was bound to attract lots of journalists.

They could be seen running around the place with their cameras and microphones as though it were a red-carpet event.

Ashlyn arched an eyebrow in amusement when she saw that.

Heh... This has "Sienna" written all over it. That pretentious woman sure loves attention-seeking stuff like this!

Ashlyn was snapped out of her thoughts when her phone buzzed in her pocket.

She opened up Lucas' text and saw that he had sent her a selfie.

In the picture, he was wearing a black dress shirt and black slacks that ran along his slender legs. The sunlight shining through the grapevines above his head made him appear handsome yet lazy at the same time.

Ashlyn let out a chuckle when she recalled that she was wearing a black dress shirt as well.

For some reason, knowing that they were both inexplicitly wearing matching colors like couples filled her heart with a warm sensation.

Just then, a car pulled up outside the building, and Tinsor and Winsor got out of the car.

"Ashlyn!"

Tinsor was so excited to see Ashlyn that he nearly fell to his knees. "I'm sorry about that day. I—"

"I know. Let's not bring up the past anymore. Just be a little more careful in the future," Ashlyn cut him off coldly.

[Chapter 854 Pretty Diamond Necklace](#)

"Yes, you're right, Ashlyn. You're absolutely right!" Tinsor was close to tears at that point.

"Happy birthday, Ms. Berry," Winsor said while handing her a present.

"Thank you, Mr. Winsor," Ashlyn said calmly. She had the first two buttons of her dress shirt undone, exposing her fair skin and collarbones. It wasn't all that revealing, but Winsor still found himself getting

aroused when he saw it.

“Y-You look really pretty today, Ashlyn...” Tinsor stammered nervously. He had become a lot quieter ever since that incident.

“When did you become so nervous when talking to me?” Ashlyn asked while ruffling his hair.

Suddenly, she noticed through the corner of her eye that a Rolls-Royce had come to a halt outside The Peacock.

The driver then helped open the door, and a woman elegantly stepped out of the car in a maroon-colored evening gown and matching stilettos.

Ashlyn frowned when she realized who that woman was. Mary? What's she doing here? Oh, wait a minute... Jared said Sienna was throwing a party for a woman from a wealthy family. I didn't think much about it at the time. Who would've thought that woman would turn out to be Mary?

As though wearing tons of jewelry wasn't enough, Mary also had the latest designer handbag to help her exude an air of wealth.

“Be careful when you get out of the car, Penelope.”

Ah, of course Penelope is here too... She's always with Mary. Since when did these two get so close to Sienna and Dixon, though?

Those words had barely left Mary's mouth when Penelope got out of the car as well. She was dressed in a white, low-cut gown with her hair styled neatly like a princess.

The diamond necklace that she wore around her neck was particularly eye-catching as it shone brightly under the sun.

It really helped elevate her overall appearance by making her seem a lot more elegant and wealthy.

The cord of the necklace was adorned with lots of crushed diamonds to help accentuate the square-shaped blue diamond pendant.

The diamond necklace exuded a pure and radiant glow under the sun, capturing a lot of attention with its sheer beauty.

“Oh, my goodness! That necklace of yours is so pretty, Penelope!” Jenny exclaimed the moment Penelope got out of the car.

As Mary and her mother were having a birthday party with the Haddocks, Jenny and Hera were also invited.

However, Hera turned the invitation down as she refused to show herself in public ever since she lost the piano competition.

Jenny, on the other hand, responded to the invitation and showed up at the party.

Penelope wasn't all that happy when she heard what Jenny said, though.

The necklace is pretty? What about me, then? Am I not pretty? This is my birthday party!

Her position in the Yates family had been somewhat unstable ever since she and Mary were humiliated at Bianca's birthday party. While Bianca still maintained a polite attitude around her, the older woman was no longer as affectionate as she used to be.

As a result, Penelope didn't dare hold her birthday party at the Yates residence this time.

Fortunately for her, one of Yates Group's subsidiaries planned on collaborating with Haddock Group to develop a project in Lake City, so Mary decided to come over together with Penelope.

Despite what everyone said about Dixon being cold and heartless, he had Sienna make the arrangements for a grand birthday party the moment he heard Penelope's birthday was just around the corner.

Even though her position in the Yates family had been affected, the family's reputation still proved to be incredibly useful.

Everyone would back away and treat her with respect after finding out that she was a daughter of the Yates family. Even Dixon, who refused to look her in the eye back then, went to have dinner at the Berry Residence when he was in Lake City a while back.

[Chapter 855 Determined To Seduce](#)

He still ended up throwing a birthday banquet for her.

Men.

Penelope's determination to seduce Dixon was reignited at the thought of possibly becoming the next Mrs. Haddock.

With that thought in mind, she smiled at Jenny haughtily. In her head, it was a graceful and elegant smile. "Jenny, thank you so much for coming today. It means the world to me."

Jenny felt a sense of unease at Penelope's words.

Why is she acting all high and mighty? Just because she got welcomed back into her rich family doesn't

mean she'll become the queen overnight. Dixon wouldn't have needed to throw her a banquet if she were so powerful.

She didn't show any of her disdain on her face. Instead, she plastered a fake smile on her face as she asked, "Is that a branded necklace? It looks so expensive and classy!"

Penelope's eyes glinted maliciously despite her gentle smile.

"Oh, this old thing? It's just a regular necklace. It wasn't expensive at all," she said in a casual tone. "It's a design by X called Azure."

She instinctively began to stroke the pendant hanging from the delicate chain. "This is a pretty rare blue diamond, too. I've always loved her work. You know what a big fan of hers I am."

However, Azure wasn't a recent design. In fact, it was quite an old design—a classic from X's earlier years.

Her older works hadn't been as well received before as they were now. She wasn't as famous and had much fewer fans then.

Her designs hadn't always been so perfect. Some still had their flaws.

Back then, her designs weren't as expensive either. After all, they used to be worth much less.

That was how Penelope got her hands on the necklace at some random pawn shop.

Jenny never got the chance to buy any of X's designs because they were now insanely expensive.

She may have been the beloved daughter of the Holt family, but they still weren't well-equipped enough to spend so much money on just a single necklace.

That was why she was so persistent with the idea that X's designs had to be amazing.

She suppressed the anger and envy she felt toward Penelope and said with an extremely false smile, "You're so lucky. You're never going to want for anything ever again at the Count's Mansion. In fact, I bet that uncle of yours would even get you the stars in the sky if you asked for them."

Despite Jenny's slightly snide tone, the envy and respect behind her words still made Penelope feel as though she had spent her money wisely. She silently patted herself on the back for choosing to wear it today, too.

Despite all the glee she felt, she still remained calm and said modestly, "My uncle truly is a nice person. I'm really just lucky to be able to return to the Yates family."

"It's not luck when you belong in the Yates family anyway. You were born into it," Jenny said, barely managing to hide her jealousy.

Despite her disgust, she still had to force herself to gush out the most shallow, fake compliments she could think of.

If she kept going, she might actually throw up.

Penelope, however, couldn't stop glancing over at the reporters who were standing not too far off as she spoke to Jenny.

Mary had invited all of them over so they could promote and brag about how well the mother-daughter duo were doing in the Count's Mansion.

She also wanted to show off how many people wanted to get in their good books after returning to Lake City.

Once her perfect, rich image had been curated, Penelope no longer had to worry about suitors. All the handsome, rich young bachelors would come and find her on their own.

Dixon was a prime example.

Penelope was practically glowing with pride.

Jenny had spotted the reporters too and was starting to wonder why they had all shown up. Is Penelope that interesting nowadays?

Still, she continued to smile graciously and maintained her elegant stature. She silently promised herself that she would not lose to someone like Penelope.

No matter how frustrated she was, she was determined not to show it. "Penelope, the banquet Mr. Haddock is throwing for you is a pretty huge affair. Is he trying to pursue you?"

"Jenny, don't say such a thing! Our families are just business acquaintances, that's all," Penelope said shyly. However, her blushing cheeks betrayed what she truly felt.

The sudden redness in her cheeks only caused more people to wonder what was actually going on between them.

[Chapter 856 Outshine](#)

In truth, Penelope was pretty unimpressed by Jenny. Compared to herself, Jenny was just some Lake City socialite who was still living under a rock.

Despite that, she basked in the glory of being able to compare herself to Jenny.

Suddenly, a car stopped next to them.

Penelope and Mary hurried over to greet the newcomer, who was none other than Dixon.

He was dressed in a gunmetal grey suit, and his dark features seemed to radiate a chill that was prevalent even under the sun.

His tall stature commanded attention, while his almond eyes seemed to constantly be fixed in a cold stare.

His gaze finally landed on Penelope, who smiled graciously. "It's great to see you, Mr. Haddock."

"Ms. Berry, the man you've always admired, Jason Harris, is on his way. He also mentioned that he would be bringing two of his friends to join in the fun."

Jason is coming?

Jason Harris was a movie star who was already immensely famous, having won a Best Actor Award before. Even Jonathan, who was a renowned idol, had to show respect to a celebrity like him.

Penelope hadn't imagined that Dixon was willing to invite Jason to her birthday party. Her hands were shaking with anticipation.

Her heart was beating a mile a minute as she looked at Dixon a little shyly. "Mr. Haddock, would you happen to know who those two friends are?"

"No, I don't," Dixon replied emotionlessly.

He had only decided to throw Penelope a birthday banquet after figuring out that Lucas and Ashlyn were investigating him.

Penelope and her mother were complete idiots.

Dixon almost couldn't believe she and Ashlyn were related, even if they were only half-sisters.

That was why he really couldn't care less about who Jason was bringing.

Putting on a bit of a show was all part of his plan anyway.

Besides, the plan within a plan was what made everything even more fun.

Above all, he wanted to know how Ashlyn would react.

Mary was a little too overexcited. “Mr. Haddock, thank you so much for throwing Penelope this birthday party! No matter who comes, we'll still be incredibly grateful for your generosity.”

Dixon's expression remained cold even though his tone was gentle. “You're too kind, Ms. Canter.”

Sienna suddenly appeared in an eggshell white dress that was subtle yet elegant. Her stunningly good looks made her stand out in the crowd despite her seemingly simple dress.

She approached Penelope and handed her a jewelry box. “Happy birthday, Ms. Penelope.”

Penelope took one look at the logo on the box before her smile went from courteous to ecstatic. “Thank you so much, Ms. Oates.”

She opened the box to take a quick look, only to see a pair of pearl earrings shining back at her. They were an understated design but still elegant and timeless. Despite the understated design, they definitely cost a pretty penny since they were from X Corporation.

That was why Penelope was smiling so brightly.

“Don't thank me, thank Mr. Haddock instead. This was his idea.” Despite Sienna's casual tone, her heart was clenching slightly.

She could no longer understand Dixon.

She couldn't for the life of her figure out why he was getting involved with Penelope and her mother. The two of them were clearly gold diggers.

Suddenly, Mary caught sight of Ashlyn standing not too far away from them. In shock, she gasped, “Ashlyn?”

Winsor and Tinsor were next to Ashlyn, as were Naomi and Blair.

What is going on?

Dixon and the others turned to look in Ashlyn's direction after hearing Mary's exclamation.

Dressed in a simple black button-down and a pair of jeans, she had chosen to finish off the look with a plain pair of white shoes.

Compared to Penelope and everyone else around her, she looked extremely underdressed.

Despite her clothes, though, her pretty face and demeanor shone through and made her outfit seem even more flashy than any dress could have been

She looked like the main character of a comic book.

Even such a simple outfit looked stunning on her and flattered her perfectly.

Even though she was just standing there normally, it looked like she was ready for a magazine shoot.

Penelope and the others simply couldn't hold a candle to her.

Penelope felt as though her heart was being put through a blender at the sight of Ashlyn's gorgeous face.

She dug her nails into her palm in an attempt to force herself to calm down.

What is she doing here? Why is she surrounded by so many people?

[Chapter 857 Doing It On Purpose](#)

Even Winsor was there.

However, once Penelope realized how casually they were dressed, she felt a little bit calmer. None of them looked like they were dressed for the occasion.

Mary, on the other hand, was still annoyed. Even the sight of Ashlyn could rub her the wrong way. She always had a giggling feeling that everything would go south as long as Ashlyn was around.

"What are you doing here?" Mary spat at Ashlyn coldly.

Ashlyn had already spotted Mary and Penelope when she arrived, but she hadn't spared them a second glance nor thrown any attention their way.

She just didn't feel the need to.

Suddenly, while she was in the middle of talking to Naomi, she heard an angry voice call out to her.

It sounded as if whoever it was wanted to skin her alive.

Ashlyn looked up nonchalantly and caught sight of Mary, Penelope, and a whole gaggle of other people walking in her direction.

It almost looked like they were a gang trying to start a street fight.

She rose a delicate eyebrow, completely unruffled by their ridiculous antics. Calmly, she asked, "Didn't you know? The Peacock is owned by Nolan Group."

Tinsor and Blair were already preparing themselves for a fight the moment they saw so many

extravagantly dressed people strutting their way.

However, Ashlyn was a force to be reckoned with even on her own.

Her simple reply left Mary speechless.

Lucas was the owner of The Peacock. Even though Imperial Hotel had been the most popular at one point, The Peacock's business was booming now that Imperial Hotel was gone.

Is there a problem with coming to my own restaurant? Ashlyn seemed to be asking as she looked at Mary haughtily.

“What did you just say?” Mary felt like someone had just smacked her upside the head.

Why did Dixon choose Lucas' restaurant for Penelope's birthday banquet?

After leaving Lake City and returning to Count's Mansion, she had barely had the chance to eat at a restaurant like The Peacock since the Berrys couldn't exactly afford it.

As a result, she had never had the chance to figure out that Lucas owned The Peacock.

She felt like she had just asked an extremely stupid question.

Ashlyn's voice suddenly piped up again. “Hey, Ms. Canter, doesn't it feel great to basically give your money to Nolan Group?”

Mary's expression was beginning to cloud over like a stormy sky. “Ashlyn Berry! What happened to having manners? Haven't you ever heard the saying that the customer is always right? Right now, you have to listen to me!”

Ashlyn rose an eyebrow as her clear gaze began to radiate a certain bone-chilling emotion. “Why would I listen to the likes of you?”

Mary's face was starting to purple with anger.

“What exactly do you mean by that!”

Even though Penelope was furious as well, she didn't want anyone to steal the spotlight since it was supposed to be her big day.

She tugged her angry mother's sleeve. “Let's go, Mom. She's always been like this. All she knows is how to sound mean and cruel, so let's not bother with her. Don't stoop to her level. You're part of the Yates family, after all.”

Is there a problem with coming to my own restaurant? Ashlyn saamad to be asking as she looked at Mary haughtily.

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Why did Dixon choose Lucas' restaurant for Panalopa's birthday banquet?

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As a result, she had never had the chance to figure out that Lucas owned The Peacock.

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Ashlyn's voice suddenly piped up again. "Hey, Ms. Cantar, doesn't it feel great to basically give your money to Nolan Group?"

Mary's expression was beginning to cloud over like a stormy sky. "Ashlyn Barry! What happened to having manners? Haven't you ever heard the saying that the customer is always right? Right now, you have to listen to me!"

Ashlyn rose an eyebrow as her clear gaze began to radiate a certain bone-chilling emotion. "Why would I listen to the likes of you?"

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No matter how multitalented Ashlyn is, what with all the embroidery and piano playing, it doesn't change the fact that she's still a regular citizen. She can't even come close to our noble bloodline. Ashlyn will always be nothing but the bastard child of the Berry family who doesn't even know her father's name.

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Only someone as foolish and blind as Lucas could actually fall for her. She's simply an ant in the grand scheme of things. Compared to me, she's nothing.

So what if she's Mrs. Nolan? As if that could ever compare to our prestigious family.

After a long bout of comforting herself, Penelope finally felt a little better.

However, Mary was still outraged. A vein was beginning to show on her forehead, and her expression was more twisted than a knotted rope. "She's the reason why we're not in Lake City anymore! Look at her! She thinks she's so high and mighty now. So what if you can play the piano or embroider a stupid flower or two? Who cares? She knows it's your birthday, and she purposely came here to cause a scene. After all, The Peacock is owned by the Nolans. She probably saw the booking information and is doing all this on purpose!"

Mary continued to spit insults like a machine gun as her face grew red from anger.

[Chapter 858 Such A Badass](#)

Blair seethed with anger as he listened to Mary's unreasonable words. "The Peacock is owned by my family. We can come and eat whenever we please! Who are you to tell us otherwise?"

Her unreasonableness never ceases to amaze me.

Mary scrutinized Blair and saw a handsome young man. What a shame he's Ashlyn's lap dog. Trash.

"Who do you think you are? How dare you talk to me like that? I'm the daughter of the Count. Stop bragging. The Peacock belongs to your family? Do you really think you're one of the Nolans?" Mary spat out, directing her words at Blair.

Blair fumed with rage. "If I'm not a Nolan, then who is? You? You're certainly not a Nolan. What's so impressive about being the Count's daughter? Does he even have jurisdiction here in Lake City?"

Ashley tugged on Blair's sleeve and turned to Mary with annoyance in her eyes. "Ms. Canter, please stop insulting my brother. It's pointless. You should just enjoy your meal."

"Mom, let's go. I don't want to embarrass myself any further by being associated with her. Besides, we're better than this. Just look at her. She's acting like a shrew right now," Penelope said, placing a hand on Mary's arm and looking down at everyone else with disdain.

Hmph! Ashlyn and I are from two different worlds.

Meanwhile, Naomi was fuming and had an intense urge to give Penelope a tight slap on the face.

Does she even know what she's saying? How dare those shrews accuse Ashlyn of being one? Don't they realize they're acting exactly like a shrew right now? This is sickening. How can one be so disgusting? Does she eat right out of the toilet bowl every day?

"Forget it! Let's go! We don't want to keep our guests waiting," Mary snapped irritably.

Penelope, on the other hand, tried to maintain a façade of grace and sophistication. "Mom, Mr. Haddock even invited some paparazzi. It's important that we maintain our image, even if others choose not to."

Ashlyn's captivating beauty always drew attention wherever she went, making her the center of attention.

No matter how much effort others put into dressing up, they could never ignore Ashlyn's presence.

Penelope's jealousy towards Ashlyn intensified when she noticed the paparazzi snapping photos of the latter, as it made her upset to see the attention Ashlyn was getting.

Mary's face twisted with disgust as she glared at Ashlyn. "Forget it. Let's go!"

She despised Ashlyn for making a fool of her and her daughter at the Count's Mansion and for the subsequent snubbing by Bianca.

Ashlyn looked at them nonchalantly. "Take care. Bye."

Doas sha avan know what sha's saying? How dara thosa shraws accusa Ashlyn of baing ona? Don't thay raaliza thay'ra acting axactly lika a shraw right now? This is sickaning. How can ona ba so disgusting? Doas sha aat right out of tha toilat bowl avary day?

"Forgat it! Lat's go! Wa don't want to kaap our guasts waiting," Mary snappad irritably.

Panalopa, on tha othar hand, triad to maintain a façade of graca and sophistication. "Mom, Mr. Haddock avan invitad soma paparazzi. It's important that wa maintain our imaga, avan if othars choosa not to."

Ashlyn's captivating baaauty always draw attantion wharavar sha want, making har tha cantar of attantion.

No mattar how much affort othars put into drassing up, thay could navar ignora Ashlyn's prasanca.

Panalopa's jaalousy towards Ashlyn intansifiad whan sha noticad tha paparazzi snapping photos of tha lattar, as it mada har upsat to saa tha attantion Ashlyn was gatting.

Mary's faca twistad with disgust as sha glarad at Ashlyn. "Forgat it. Lat's go!"

Sha daspisad Ashlyn for making a fool of har and har daughtar at tha Count's Mansion and for tha subsaquant snubbing by Bianca.

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Mary was so angry that she almost stumbled, but Penelope steadied her.

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Blair and Tinsor were impressed by Ashlyn's confidence and bravery.

"Ashlyn, you're such a badass!"

"You're amazing, Ashlyn!"

However, Winsor noticed something odd. "There's something strange going on here. Dixon would never have gotten involved with those two in the past, but this time he's making a huge show of it and even invited paparazzi over..."

"Let's wait and see. I'm curious to see what Dixon is up to," Ashlyn said coldly.

"Ms. Berry, rest assured I won't let him have his way." Winsor expressed his stance firmly.

Suddenly, Ashley's phone chimed, interrupting the conversation.

She pulled it out and saw a text message from Harvey.

Harvey texted: Linnie, your Uncle Harvey is here.

Ashlyn replied: I'm at the entrance of The Peacock.

Harvey: All right. Wait for me there.

Their conversation ended there.

Ashlyn put her phone away and turned to look at the doorway.

She saw that Mary and Penelope had already arrived at the spot where she typically welcomed her guests.

Mary's face was still red with anger. It was clear that she was still fuming about the confrontation with Ashlyn.

[Chapter 859 Jason Harris At The Party](#)

A discreet smile formed on Ashlyn's lips as she watched Mary fume with anger.

"That lowly b*tch," Mary cursed. "So what if she's married to Lucas? He's gone cuckoo with a split personality disorder. Who knows, he might even beat her to death one day!"

Mary couldn't help but think that Ashlyn might become a victim of Lucas' violence soon, given the rising cases of domestic violence and his frighteningly uncontrollable temper.

Don't be so smug just because you're Mrs. Nolan now.

Sienna had also noticed Ashlyn's behavior, and it sent chills down her spine.

Ashlyn wasn't as amiable as she used to be when they worked together at the Haddock Group Foundation.

The coldness in her eyes was almost chilling.

No wonder Dixon is so determined to get rid of Ashlyn. This woman shouldn't be taken lightly.

Sienna looked elegantly at Mary and Penelope. "Calm down, you two. We're surrounded by paparazzi."

Penelope forced a smile for the cameras even though she was angry. "Mom, Ms. Oates is right. Keep in mind that many public figures are here on Mr. Haddock's invite."

Ashlyn is just a mere Mrs. Nolan. Moreover, Lucas is ill. What can she do?

Penelope thought of Ashlyn with disgust.

"Mom, you're the Count's daughter..."

Mary let out a long sigh and kept quiet at that.

The guests Dixon had invited on behalf of Penelope and Mary soon arrived as it was approaching twelve noon.

"Mr. Watson, may I introduce Ms. Canter, daughter of Maredania's Count, and her daughter, Ms. Berry."

"Welcome, Mr. Bush."

"Today is Ms. Berry's birthday. I heard you have two single sons. Would you like me to introduce them to Ms. Berry? Your families would make a great match."

Sienna showed off her impressive social skills, flitting around like a social butterfly.

Penelope flashed a charming smile as Sienna cued her and began greeting the guests.

The guests showed some courtesy by greeting Penelope and Mary warmly for the sake of Dixon. Additionally, they had brought Yates Group's project with them upon their return to Lake City, and the Count was an influential figure.

A car pulled up in front of The Peacock's entrance. Jenny peeked at it out of curiosity and exclaimed, "Isn't that the movie star Jason's car?"

Penelope blushed and smiled shyly. "Oh my, I didn't expect Jason to show up."

The paparazzi rushed over to Jason the moment they spotted his car.

"Mr. Harris! Mr. Harris!"

"Over here! Over here!"

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"Mr. Watson, may I introduce Ms. Cantar, daughter of Maradania's Count, and her daughter, Ms. Barry."

"Welcome, Mr. Bush."

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The paparazzi rushed over to Jason the moment they spotted his car.

“Mr. Harris! Mr. Harris!”

“Ovar hara! Ovar hara!”

The car door opened, and Jason stepped out.

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Penelope concealed her smugness and maintained a gracious smile as she approached him. “Mr. Harris, it's an honor to see you here.”

Despite being in his forties, Jason had donned a black suit that belied his age.

He exuded energy, elegance, and sophistication, leaving a lasting impression on everyone.

He was an urbane middle-aged man who had won the hearts of many with his acting prowess. Due to his numerous female fans, he had even won three consecutive Best Actor awards, making him a seasoned actor in the eyes of many.

With no scandals to his name, his presence immediately caught the paparazzi's attention, and they went wild taking photos of him.

“It really is Mr. Harris.”

“Mr. Harris attended Ms. Penelope's birthday party. This is huge...”

“I'm so jealous. Quick, take some photos of him. We must post it on Twitter as soon as possible.”

“We need to post it before everyone else.”

Jenny felt a pang of jealousy in her heart. “Penelope, you're so lucky to have Mr. Haddock. He even invited Mr. Harris over for your sake.”

Penelope smiled modestly. “Let's take a group photo with Mr. Harris, Jenny.”

[Chapter 860 The Twins Duo](#)

Jenny's face lit up with joy as Penelope's suggestion struck a chord with her. She immediately walked over to Jason's side.

As an experienced entertainer, Jason enjoyed being the center of attention. He generally didn't refuse requests for group photos, as he believed it would help with his publicity and present him as an approachable and down-to-earth person.

Besides, despite not being as stunning as those female celebrities, Jenny and Penelope looked better

than most people.

After the group photo, Jason motioned for his assistant to come over. The assistant promptly arrived and handed Penelope a beautifully wrapped gift.

“Happy birthday to the beautiful and classy Ms. Berry,” Jason said with a smile.

Penelope's eyes widened in anticipation as she saw the logo of a luxury brand printed on the bag. She knew that whatever was inside would be expensive.

Despite her excitement, she managed to maintain her composure as she accepted the bag. “This is too much, Mr. Harris. You shouldn't have,” she said gratefully.

“It's fine. Mr. Haddock is a good friend of mine too,” Jason replied warmly.

He was counting on Penelope to assist him in attracting investors for his movies and television shows as she had a good relationship with Dixon, who was fond of investing in such ventures together with Fraser Corporation.

Given that he was getting older and wanted to transition into directing, he required additional financial support, which made it all the more essential for him to curry favor with Dixon.

Jason happened to glance up and caught sight of Ashlyn standing across from him.

She had a tall, slender figure with delicate facial features, and her almond-shaped eyes sparkled brightly in the light, making her stand out as she practically glowed.

With her captivating looks and aura, she would undoubtedly stand out even in the entertainment industry.

Jason thought she looked somewhat familiar. “She is...”

“Oh her! That's Ashlyn!” Jenny caught on. “She's Penelope's sister, but she has a bad attitude. I don't know what methods she used to marry herself to Lucas, but she's the famous Mrs. Nolan now.”

Realization dawned on Jason.

Despite Ashlyn not being part of the entertainment industry, her name was well known due to her frequent presence as a trending topic on the internet.

Additionally, she invested in movies that consistently delivered good results and achieved high box office sales.

A woman like her...

Before Jason could think too much about Ashlyn, Penelope interrupted him with a forced, gentle voice. "Mr. Harris, I heard that you brought two friends with you."

Jason smiled, but a car pulled up to the entrance of The Peacock before he could respond. Given that he was getting older and wanted to transition into directing, he required additional financial support, which made it all the more essential for him to curry favor with Dixon.

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They weren't actual brothers, but they looked so much alike that they decided to form a duo, much like the famous female twins duo from Venice two years prior.

It could be said that they were the top celebrities in the group category, just as Jonathan was a superstar in the solo category.

They had a large following of female fans, including Jenny and Penelope.

After all, who didn't like young, handsome men?

The two women were so excited that they almost covered their faces and screamed in delight.

Adam's dancing skills were unparalleled, especially when he would reveal his abs by lifting his shirt, captivating the hearts of countless young women.

The other guy, Sean, was the shy, cute boy-next-door type, especially with his adorable smile.

The two of them looked like they had come straight out of an idol drama, their handsome looks enough to make anyone's heart skip a beat.

They stood side by side as they greeted Jason. "Jason," one of them said.

"This is Ms. Berry," Jason introduced Penelope to the duo.