

Chapter 1293 Softening Attitude Towards Him

Hearing that, Damon was momentarily stunned. Then, with a joyful smile, he said, "You can ask me anything you want. I'll tell you everything I know."

He felt a surge of happiness. Loraine's request for information indicated a softening attitude towards him. Damon believed that if he proved helpful, he might soon earn a familial acknowledgment from her, perhaps even being called 'uncle' before Francis.

Loraine's question pertained to the history of the Cruz family. While in Vagow, she had heard from Florence that the wife of the head of the Cruz family came from a royal background, but at the time, she hadn't paid much attention to this detail.

It wasn't until Marco brought it up recently that she recalled this information. If Marco's mother indeed belonged to the royal family of Eplistan, Damon, with his diplomatic background, would surely remember her.

However, with the exhibition approaching and her makeup not yet applied, Loraine was pressed for time. "The Wilson family will also be at the jewelry exhibition, right? Can you wait a moment? After I'm ready, we can go together. I'll ask you on the way."

"No problem," Damon responded quickly.

Loraine then hurried the makeup artist to prepare her as swiftly as possible.

When she reappeared, fully made up and dressed, Damon offered a sincere compliment. "Lorrie, you look stunning. You'll be the most beautiful woman there today."

Loraine offered a gracious smile in response. They then got into the car and set off. Once settled, she asked directly, "I want to know everything you can tell me about Melvin's marriage."

Damon, adjusting his glasses in surprise, hadn't anticipated this line of inquiry.

But upon reflection, considering Melvin's recent illness and Marco's takeover of the Cruz family management, it made sense for Loraine, given her relationship with Marco, to seek such information.

After a moment of reflection, Damon responded, "I was present at Melvin's wedding. Unfortunately, I don't know many details. The Cruz family tends to be quite secretive. I only know that his wife was of royal Eplistani descent, but the specifics are unclear to me. Even the royal family of Eplistan is quite secretive about what occurred during that period."

Loraine pondered this. She already knew everything Damon just mentioned. Since even Melvin was searching for the truth about what occurred back then, it seemed plausible that outsiders had limited information.

Noticing Loraine's interest, Damon continued, "At that time, the murder of the wife of the head of the Cruz family caused a significant uproar. I was merely a low-level employee in the Foreign Ministry, so I wasn't privy to high-level secrets. But that incident disrupted our years of efforts to establish diplomatic ties with Eplistan. Everything was halted until we recently started making attempts again."

Surprised, Loraine inquired, "Did that year's events also affect the diplomatic relations between the two countries?"

Damon nodded, then added with a rueful smile, "Unfortunately, I've moved away from the Foreign Ministry over the past few years, focusing now more on combating trafficking, so I'm even less informed about diplomatic issues. But in diplomacy, it's typical for even minor issues to be escalated to political significance, especially something as dramatic as the death of a royal."

He then paused, looking thoughtfully at Loraine. "Are you asking this for Marco? Didn't Melvin discuss these matters with him?"

With a touch of sorrow, Loraine explained, "Melvin was just about to share those details with him when an accident occurred, and he was hospitalized. He's been in a coma since then."

"I see..." Damon paused to reflect, then sighed deeply, "Melvin holds significant influence. It's truly unfortunate that an accident happened to him. But let's set aside the Cruz family matters for now. Vincent has prepared some jewelry for you and left it at the shopping mall ahead. I'll take you there to pick it up."

Loraine nodded and they both exited the car. Noticing Damon's somewhat labored movements, Loraine's empathy stirred, and she gently took his arm, advising, "Be careful."

Damon, visibly moved by her concern, nodded appreciatively.

As they entered the mall, unbeknownst to them, Caroline also arrived for the exhibition. Stepping out of her vehicle with Kosha's assistance, she caught sight of Loraine and Damon. Surprised and curious, she asked, "Who is that man? Why does Loraine seem so close to him?"

Kosha speculated, "Your Highness, he could be her lover. This is an excellent chance to tarnish Loraine's reputation. We could post photos of them online. Once her image is compromised,

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she'll have no standing to challenge you."

Caroline's expression brightened at the idea, her eyes sparkling with anticipation.



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Chapter 1294 Slander

At a shopping mall near the exposition, Loraine admired herself in the mirror after the makeup artist adorned her with exquisite jewelry that perfectly complemented her dress.

She delicately touched the emerald tassel pendant around her neck and murmured, "It's stunning."

The jewelry was uniquely crafted, evoking Loraine's natural affinity for beauty to speak candidly about her admiration.

Adjusting her dress hem with a gentle smile, Damon remarked, "Some pieces were prepared by Vincent, while others I brought back from my travels abroad. They suit you wonderfully."

Loraine hesitated and asked, "Are they expensive?"

She wished to steer clear of accepting such a generous gesture from the Wilson family.

Damon responded earnestly, "You are the most precious and invaluable treasure in the Wilson family. No amount of money can compare to you. You deserve these jewels."

Softening his tone, he added, "Moreover, the jewelry exhibition in Zodiac will be graced by numerous influential figures. When you attend, you must shine as the most mesmerizing presence, captivating everyone's attention."

He stated this not as a request but as a simple truth, confident in her charm and presence.

Loraine couldn't help but laugh. Then Damon smoothly changed the subject.

The mall was near the exhibition hall, and before the event started, some unprepared attendees would come here to buy the jewelry they needed.

Loraine and Damon left the mall and soon arrived at the exhibition hall.

Meanwhile, in a lounge at the venue, Kosha addressed Caroline respectfully, "Your Highness, it's done. Just wait and see. Loraine is doomed."

Caroline smiled with satisfaction and nodded. She motioned for Kosha to hand her the phone for a personal check.

It was a domestic social media platform. Although Caroline had an account, she rarely used it. Clumsily, she clicked on the trending topics and, unsurprisingly, saw news about Loraine making a sudden appearance at the top.

The headline read: "Loraine's Private Life Exposed Again—Seen Intimately With Middle-aged Man in Mall."

Caroline was impressed by the media's efficiency in spreading the news for the first time.

Numerous photos of Loraine and Damon entering the shopping mall, arm in arm, circulated online. Though their faces weren't clear, Loraine's internet fame made identification easy and media had boldly used her name in headlines.

Online discussions ensued heatedly among netizens. Given that it wasn't long since the last scandal involving Loraine, people were skeptical. Some, remembering the previous misunderstanding, cautiously questioned, "Is this another relative of hers? Stop spreading groundless rumors and wasting our time."

Some skeptically commented, "I think this might be true this time. Didn't you see how stunning Loraine looked? Would



someone dress up like that just to go shopping with a relative?"

Another netizen clarified, "This man isn't Loraine's relative. She has only two uncles and her relationship with her maternal relatives is terrible. So, it's impossible for the man to be her uncle or anything like that."

The netizens were shocked, and most still couldn't believe it. "Even if this man isn't a relative of Loraine, we can't say she's involved with him. Loraine's fiancé is Marco. She has such a handsome partner. Why would she be with a middle-aged man?"

"I know why," a confident netizen interjected, scoffing at those defending Loraine. "It's simple. Marco's rise as head of the Cruz family has elevated his status. Loraine feels she no longer deserves him. To avoid being dumped, she's cozying up to this man. Just wait; soon, the Universe Group will announce a major project."

Another agreed, "Then she deserves to be exposed. Marco should know what kind of person she is and dump her, shattering her illusion!"

Some questioned, "Why jump to conclusions whenever you see a woman with a man? Don't you have any respect for women?"

The internet erupted into a fierce argument, but Loraine remained oblivious to the controversy.

Caroline, online herself, echoed those condemning Loraine when Kosha's voice interrupted, "Your Highness, Marco is here."

Caroline swiftly set aside her phone and dashed out excitedly. Sure enough, she spotted the dashing Marco in a suit entering the venue. Grasping her dress hem, Caroline hurried over to him, standing before him with a mix of innocence and arrogance. "You must have discovered Loraine's wrongdoing, haven't you? It's not too late to realize that I'm the only one who deserves you. I'll overlook your previous rudeness," she declared.

Confused, Marco frowned and muttered under his breath, "Nonsense!"

He attempted to walk past Caroline, but she seized his arm, blurting out, "It's all over the news—Lorraine's been caught with a middle-aged man. You're the only one who doesn't know!"

