

Chapter 1295 Stealing The Spotlight

Caroline's voice rang out, drawing the attention of many guests who turned to look, their eyes filled with curiosity and intrigue.

Those who recognized Marco and Caroline were surprised.

It seemed the newly appointed head of the Cruz family knew the princess of Eplistan. Interesting.

Marco's face darkened instantly, his gaze cold enough to cut through Caroline.

She flinched but forced herself to speak. "If you don't believe me, see for yourself!"

Marco retrieved his phone, quickly finding the trending topic Caroline had mentioned. His expression grew even more somber. Misinterpreting his reaction as anger, Caroline prepared to stoke the flames.

However, Marco calmly ordered his subordinate standing behind him, "Take down the trending topic. Also, ensure no rumor-mongering accounts get away with this. Have Jimmie sue them."

Caroline's smug expression faltered, replaced by shock. "Why are you still helping Loraine when she's cheating on you?" she blurted out.

Marco shot her a cold glance. "I trust my fiancée. If you continue causing trouble, I won't remain courteous."

Before Caroline could muster a response, a collective gasp



diverted their attention to the entrance. All eyes turned to see Loraine dazzling in a stunning gown that radiated elegance and grace. The room seemed to pause for a moment as she walked in.

Marco's gaze shifted to Loraine, and his demeanor softened immediately. He approached her with a warm smile, extending his hand for her to take.

Unaware of the tense moments earlier, Loraine noticed the curious and amused looks around them. She assumed they were reacting to Marco's overt display of affection, causing her to smile shyly at him.

Marco squeezed her hand gently. "Where's Vincent? Wasn't he supposed to drive you here?"

Loraine explained that it was Damon who had dropped her off here, and Marco nodded in acknowledgment.

Walking closely together, they ignored Caroline, who seethed with anger. Seeing no further drama, the other guests dispersed, leaving Caroline fuming and stomping her foot in frustration.

Meanwhile, Loraine and Marco maintained polite smiles as they nodded to others, conversing in low voices only they could hear.

Loraine recounted what Damon had mentioned earlier, glancing back at Caroline and hinting at the possibility that Caroline might be related to Marco if his mother was indeed of royal descent in Eplistan.

Marco, understanding the implications, glanced dismissively at Caroline, who was now having a fit. "Even if it's true, it doesn't matter. I won't acknowledge her," he stated firmly.

As the CEO of Solar Company and head of the Cruz family, his status was already impressive enough; he saw no need to claim

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any additional status from Eplistani royal bloodline, especially before uncovering the truth about his mother's death.

Not wanting to dwell on the matter further, Marco took Loraine's hand. Under the watchful eyes of the guests, he leaned in and whispered, "I missed you. You look absolutely stunning today."

The compliment caught Loraine off guard, her cheeks flushing a bright red as she playfully swatted at him.

To Caroline, this intimate exchange seemed like a deliberate attempt to provoke her. She bit her lip in fury, nearly exploding with anger.

At that moment, Kosha appeared beside her, looking anxious.

Caroline, caught up in her fury, didn't notice Kosha's expression, and angrily ordered, "Continue to pay for trolls to spread Loraine's scandal online. I want to ruin her!"

Kosha pressed her lips together, her voice lowering to a whisper. "Your Highness, we should stop now and conceal what we have done."

Caroline looked at her in disbelief. "Why? Are you afraid, Kosha? What's there to be afraid of?"

Kosha's anxiety was palpable, and she lowered her head in a mix of deference and concern. "Your Highness, I should not have put forward that strategy to you. To avoid disrupting Mr. K's plan, it's safer if we halt our actions."

She paused, her voice trembling slightly. "The middle-aged man, who was with Loraine, looks familiar to me."

Caroline cared more about her own feelings than Mr. K's plan. She was about to lose her temper when Kosha quickly shifted her focus. "Your Highness, you should focus on your upcoming



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stage appearance. Outshining Loraine will surely lift your spirits."

Caroline puffed out her cheeks in frustration. Confident in her beauty, she reluctantly accepted Kosha's suggestion.

Moments later, Caroline emerged on stage, her presence commanding. She was dressed in a grand, classical gown and adorned with jewels that sparkled under the stage lights, making her look stunningly beautiful.

The audience was captivated, showering her with praise and admiration. Caroline smirked, confident as she stepped down, declaring to Kosha, "Today, I must be the most beautiful one here."

No sooner had she spoken than an abrupt silence fell over the venue.



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Caroline turned her head, baffled, and saw Loraine stepping onto the stage. She was momentarily stunned. As a woman, she found herself captivated by Loraine's beauty, which outshone the stage lights.

Loraine appeared destined for the spotlight. There, her beauty transcended her everyday appearance.

However, Caroline quickly dismissed these thoughts, annoyed with herself for even considering them.

With jealousy evident in her tone, Caroline sneered, "She must be so underwhelming that the audience remained silent."

Before she could finish, the room erupted in thunderous applause and cheers. Everyone stood, clapping vigorously, overtaken by the beauty they beheld.

On stage, Loraine wore an elegant smile, remaining composed amid the admiration and bowed slightly to express her gratitude.

Next, it was time for Loraine to showcase the jewelry she adorned. This was her opportunity to highlight her background, inner qualities, and refinement.

Earlier, Caroline, brimming with arrogance, had given only a brief explanation. "This piece is from my family. It was previously worn by a queen."

The audience, though knowledgeable and understanding of its



significance, found Caroline's display shallow, reminiscent of a child boasting about her trinkets.

Now, Loraine spoke eloquently, detailing the history, stories, and meanings behind her jewelry. The audience was enthralled, immersed in the scenarios she painted. The pieces Loraine wore, crafted by renowned artisans, rivaled the heritage and value of Caroline's royal jewelry.

The applause continued unabated, with many in the audience posing questions about her pieces, which Loraine answered individually. Even seasoned jewelers found themselves learning new details.

When Loraine concluded, she gracefully bid farewell and exited the stage to even more vigorous applause than Caroline had received.

Caroline clenched her teeth in frustration, her jealousy flaring. She was convinced that Loraine had intentionally sought to outshine her.

As Loraine left the stage, she walked toward Marco. Her dress's long train hindered her movement, so Marco didn't wait for her to approach; he walked over and lifted her up.

Loraine gasped, quickly looking around to see if anyone was watching. She only relaxed when she noticed that few people had paid attention. Playfully, she hit Marco. "You're being so cheeky!"

The venue resembled an auction house, complete with private boxes. In one such box, Marco, cradling her in his arms, feigned innocence. "Isn't it natural for me to be close to my fiancée?"

Loraine, unable to argue, leaned into his embrace and sighed. "Someone asked about the jewelry Vincent gave me earlier. Thankfully, I remembered Damon's explanation. Otherwise, I would have embarrassed myself."



The mention of Damon reminded Marco of the rumors Caroline had shown him. He suddenly realized that these rumors likely involved Damon, who had escorted Loraine to the event.

Marco had never doubted Loraine, and now he was convinced that whoever had taken and posted those photos was trying to defame her maliciously.

The individual spreading the rumors might not have been familiar with Damon but certainly knew Loraine, intending to specifically tarnish her reputation.

Marco's gaze darkened, but he masked his thoughts from Loraine. Since she was unaware of the online rumors, he chose not to mention them. He resolved to address the trending topic and personally confront the troublemaker. Loraine needed to remain untouched by any of this scandal, happy and carefree.

After sharing some affectionate moments, Marco found an excuse to leave. Loraine, aware of his busy schedule, did not suspect anything. Shortly after his departure, Damon contacted her, inviting her to his box to meet some influential Zodiac elites.

Feeling somewhat bored, Loraine decided to accept the invitation.

As the event approached its climax, the host prepared to announce the most beautiful jewelry presenter, who would receive exclusive jewelry from the event.

Loraine mingled with the elites, unconcerned about the outcome. In another box, Caroline watched the stage confidently, convinced of her victory.

Amidst the anticipation, the host declared, "The most beautiful jewelry presenter is—Loraine Torres!"

As the name was announced, an indignant voice erupted from

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Chapter 1296 The Defeat Of Caroline  +120 Points at most a box. "This is unacceptable! How could you choose a morally corrupt woman?"



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