

### Chapter 56

Mr. Philip then told Julian and Elizabeth that he was going to show them something to confirm Claudia Duval's claim.

He unlocked his tablet and tapped a few times before tilting the screen toward them. "Here," he said. "This is the board's final invitation list for this year's event. Claudia Duval personally informed us two days ago that she wouldn't be attending due to her tight schedule, so we canceled her out of the event. Once someone is canceled, our system automatically blocks their payment access... it doesn't allow any money to be received from such a guest."

Elizabeth scoffed, folding her arms to her chest tightly. "So what? She changed her mind and bribed her way in, is that what you are saying?"

Philip shook his head dismissively. "She didn't pay anything," he scrolled to the payment list and pointed. "Here are all the recorded payments. Claudia's name and account details are not listed at all, that means she didn't donate anything this year."

Elizabeth's brow furrowed. "Then how is she even here?"

"She was most likely invited by Mr. Walker," Philip replied calmly trying to make her understand.

But Elizabeth wasn't done digging yet, she quickly snatched the tablet from his hands.

"I'm going to go through this list myself," she snapped. "Let's see what this 'Mr. Walker' donated that was worth more than a million dollars which my parents donated this year!"

"Give that back!" Philip reached out, but Ryan raised a hand calmly. "Let

her look. I don't mind."

With a cold smirk, Elizabeth scrolled furiously. "Let's see... McCarthy, McCarthy... Ah! Here it is. My mother donated two hundred thousand dollars, and my father donated eight hundred thousand dollars, that's a million... A million dollars!" She whirled toward Philip. "And you threw them out like garbage!"

"I told you," Philip said evenly, "Mr. Walker's contribution was more valuable than money."

"More valuable than a million dollars? What did he donate, his kidney?!" Julian barked, his voice rising with mockery. "He's got nothing to his name except that dusty old suit he probably borrowed just to impress Claudia Duval!"

A tense silence fell over the room.

Suddenly, the main doors of the event hall burst open.

A tall, commanding man with sharp features and an aura of authority walked in. All eyes were on him as he walked confidently toward the front. Every guest recognized him immediately. It was Mr. Jared Holloway, the President of the Stallion Night VIP Event.

Every voice in the room went silenced by the authority this man carried. Elizabeth's face went pale the moment her eyes met him, even Julian's mouth dropped open slightly.

Mr. Jared climbed the stage slowly, took the microphone, and turned to face the crowd. Then his eyes locked directly on Elizabeth.

"So this... this is what the McCarthys raised?" he said coldly.

Elizabeth's lips parted slightly, but she couldn't utter a word.

"I've always had high regard for the McCarthy family," Mr. Jared continued. "They've contributed honorably over the years, but to see their daughter act like this?" He shook his head in disappointment. "If you are their only child, they should consider that they have no child. Because this behavior... his shameless, disrespectful, loud, and bratty behavior is not worthy of the name McCarthy."

Elizabeth felt a lump rise in her throat. Her eyes darted across the room, catching faces filled with judgment and curiosity.

"And you!" Mr. Jared turned to Julian. "The mighty Julian Knight... A man who once commanded admiration from this society. Now here you are... reduced to threatening, humiliating, and embarrassing not only yourself but your in-laws, your fiancée, and this entire event."

Julian's knees buckled slightly, the shame wearing him down slightly...

"As President of this Gala, I hereby announce that both Julian Knight and Elizabeth McCarthy, along with their families, are to be removed permanently from the Stallion Night VIP guest list and board. You are hereby banned from ever attending again."