



Chapter 88

Casually dressed in jeans and a t-shirt, holding hands with the same girl she had kicked out earlier.

Elizabeth's jaw clenched. She stepped forward with a forced smile and raised her hand toward the DJ. "Cut the music."

The violin music stopped immediately.

The hall went quiet. All eyes turned to the entrance this time around.

Lena panicked that very moment Elizabeth's eyes moved from Ryan to her, she was shaky visibly that even Ryan could feel her hand trembling.

Her fingers tightened around Ryan's as if asking him to shield her from Elizabeth. "What are you doing? This was a mistake," she whispered fiercely from behind Ryan who still stood still and carefree. "please, let me go. Please... we're about to get kicked out again! You have no idea what you've just walked into. They're powerful, and we look like beggars."

Ryan turned his head slightly. "Lena, look at me."

She hesitated, her eyes darting nervously around the hall.

"Look at me," Ryan repeated.

She looked into his eyes.

"I made you a promise and I'm keeping it. You're not leaving my side."

She swallowed hard and nodded.

Elizabeth stepped down from the platform. Behind her, Julian, her



fiancé, walked alongside her, as did her parents. Her eyes narrowed as she approached Ryan and Lena.

"What a pleasant surprise," Elizabeth began coldly. "If it isn't the greatest disappointment I've ever dated. Ryan, what a surprise. Didn't expect to see you crawl back here."

"Now, knowing we have no connection anymore, why are you here? Are you hungry and came rushing here to get free foods?" Elizabeth added coldly and Ryan scoffed.

Ryan didn't respond.

Her eyes flicked toward Lena, then back to Ryan. "So... let me guess. She went to get you to come plead for her? To beg for forgiveness so she could rejoin the party she doesn't belong at?"

Lena flinched, her cheeks burning red from the embarrassment.

Elizabeth snorted and folded her arms. "Ryan, she's your type, she is also poor and classless, just like you. Birds of a feather, I guess."

Julian stepped forward, a smirk on his lips. "And here I thought you were smart enough to avoid public embarrassment."

Elizabeth shook her head and gave a patronizing smile. "You really thought you could just stroll back into my party with some street rat and not expect to be thrown out?"

She turned to Lena. "I told you to celebrate your birthday in the street. Looks like you brought company. That doesn't change anything."

Ryan finally spoke.

"I wasn't planning on celebrating your birthday, Elizabeth... You should



know that," he said quietly, but his words rang loud in the silence. "I'm here for someone else."

Elizabeth raised an eyebrow. "Really? Who?"

He looked at Lena.

"Her, her birthday is also today.. and it looks like it fell at the same venue," he said and Elizabeth thought he was losing his mind.

Gasps filled the room. A few guests chuckled awkwardly.

Elizabeth blinked. "Wait, you're serious?"

"I am," Ryan said.

"This is my party, Ryan," Elizabeth snapped. "Do you know how expensive this place is? Do you have any idea what it takes to rent this floor?"

"I do," he said.

She laughed, shaking her head. "You're delusional. You can't even afford the shoes I'm wearing, and you want to take over the grand ballroom for her birthday?"

Lena tugged at Ryan's hand again, whispering frantically. "Ryan, please. Just let me go. I don't want any more trouble. This is getting out of hand."

But Ryan stood his ground.

"I'm not leaving," he said firmly. "Not until this girl gets the celebration she deserves."

Elizabeth scoffed. "And who are you to say what anyone deserves? You



lost your place in this world the moment I divorced you. Now you're just some pathetic wannabe still clinging to dreams."

Julian laughed. "If this is a joke, it's not funny, Ryan Walker. If you are here to beg for food then let us know, we may be generous enough to share with you."

Ryan stared at Elizabeth, then at Julian, then looked around the crowd. Everyone was watching him, some with pity, others with confusion.

Then Ryan spoke again, his voice louder this time.

"As far as I know, this hall is available to anyone who can pay the rental fee. Am I right?"

Elizabeth rolled her eyes. "That's correct. But you clearly can't afford it."

Ryan smirked.

"Then Lena here will pay for it..."

The room went silent instantly.

Elizabeth narrowed her eyes. "What did you say?"

"I said Lena here would rent this ballroom. You and your guests have fifteen minutes to gather your things and head upstairs to the smaller hall."

Elizabeth's mouth opened, then closed.

Julian scoffed. "Stop saying nonsense!"

"He's just some delusional fool, he probably drunk his life out and is now here to say rubbish," Elizabeth said to Julian, shooting a cold glare



at Ryan.

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