

Chapter 9 Most People Knock Before Barging In

After Noreen made her way back to her desk, her fingertips hovered above the keyboard for a long beat before she finally began typing out the resignation letter she had been silently rehearsing.

The crisp sheet slid from the printer a moment later, still radiating warmth against her palm.

One signature from Caiden would be enough to make it official.

With the letter clutched firmly in her hand, she headed to the top floor.

A soft glow spilled through the crack in Caiden's office door, mingling with the lilting sound of Jessica's laughter.

"Why would you say something like that, Caiden? You know that hurts my feelings," Jessica cooed, her voice dripping with sweetness.

Noreen lingered at the threshold, then rapped on the door three times—precise, deliberate knocks.

Laughter still rang out from inside, unbroken.

After waiting in silence, she pushed the door open. Jessica lounged sideways on the edge of Caiden's desk, her polished nails tracing lazy circles against his shoulder.

Caiden leaned back in his chair, the usual tension in his posture noticeably absent, his broad shoulders at ease for once.

The moment Noreen stepped inside, the lighthearted air evaporated, replaced by a taut silence that pressed against the walls.

Jessica slid off the desk in a languid motion and smoothed her skirt with deliberate grace. "You know, Noreen, most people knock before barging in."

"I did." Noreen's gaze swept over the flush blooming on Jessica's cheeks before settling on Caiden as he slowly turned toward her. "Maybe you were too caught up to notice. Mr..."

"Ms. Fowler!" A cold voice sliced through her words like a blade.

Waldo Glyn, Caiden's secretary, appeared at her side, ushering her firmly back toward the hallway before shutting the door behind them with a quiet but final click.

Waldo's frown deepened as he adjusted his gold-rimmed glasses, the sharp glint in his eyes carrying both impatience and calculated detachment.

He, of all people, knew she was Caiden's wife.

With a weary exhale, he finally muttered, "This is a company, not a stage for your personal drama. Keep private matters out of the office."

So he thought she'd come to catch Caiden cheating.

Noreen didn't bother to explain. These people had already become irrelevant to her world, and once her resignation went through, she'd never have to see them again.

She extended the crisp sheet of paper toward him. "I'm here to resign."

A humorless grin curved Waldo's mouth.

His gaze dropped to the letter she gripped tightly, his amusement laced with disdain. "Really? Trying to use this to threaten Mr. Evans? Spare me. Mr. Evans and Miss Dale are in the middle of business discussions. They don't have time for your little games."

Noreen's eyes narrowed, voice steady. "In all these years, have any of my projects ever gone off track, Mr. Glyn?"

Though confusion flickered in his expression, Waldo instinctively gave a stiff shake of his head.

Without hesitation, Noreen placed the resignation letter in his hand. "Then tell me, why would I use my resignation to threaten Mr. Evans? Or do you honestly think he's the kind of man I could ever corner?"

"Get him to sign this as soon as you can. The sooner it's done, the better," she added, her voice carrying no tremor, her expression still and controlled.

Something shifted in Waldo's chest as their eyes met—her unnervingly calm stare stirred a tangle of emotions he couldn't untangle.

He accepted the letter mechanically, almost unwilling to believe she truly meant to walk away.

< Chapter 9 Most People Knock Before Bargaining. 🎁 +120 Points at most

Without another word, Noreen pivoted on her heel and started down the hall. She didn't look back, didn't pause outside the door.

"Wait—are you really quitting?" Waldo called after her, the words slipping out before he could stop himself. "After you leave the Evans Group, your options won't be nearly as good. Have you really thought this through? And what about..."

His voice faltered as he went on, "Aren't you worried about the other women hovering around Mr. Evans?"

Noreen didn't break stride. Her heels clicked steadily down the hallway, every step an unspoken answer.

She simply didn't care anymore.

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The moment she disappeared from sight, Jessica stepped out, a faint shadow of irritation flickering across her face.

"Waldo, come in." Caiden's deep voice carried from inside the office.

Waldo straightened his posture and pushed open the door. "What are your orders, Mr. Evans?"

Caiden's gaze swept toward the doorway, his tone clipped. "She's gone?"



📩 Hi! Baby! I miss you!

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