

After the Secret Wedding Rise of My Queen Chapter 11

Chapter 11 Isabel Wishes She Can Disappear

“Yes.” Isabel nodded.

Reggie gazed at her for a while and saw no sign of deception, so he believed her.

“Rest up, Reg. I’ll heal your face in a month,” Isabel assured him.

Reggie opened his mouth slightly, overwhelmed with emotion, and couldn’t find the words.

“Take it easy for now. This regular ward isn’t ideal for your recovery. I’ll arrange for you to be moved to a VIP ward,” she said while helping him lie down.

Colin’s actions were truly harsh. Despite being the head of the company, he had left his son in a regular ward.

“Isa, take this card. It has 50 thousand I saved up,” Reggie said, pulling a bank card from under his pillow and handing it to her.

As Isabel looked at the card, she was struck by a wave of sadness.

It didn’t matter if she endured hardship, but Reggie was the eldest son of the Zimmermans. Despite being disfigured, he had been helping Colin in the company. It was heartbreaking that he had only saved 50 thousand.

She remembered that Lillian’s Chanel bag from last month cost about that much.

“Keep the card. I have enough money.”

“But—”

“Reg, you always looked out for me. Now it’s my turn to take care of you. Believe me, I can handle it,” Isabel said firmly, locking eyes with Reggie.

He tried to say something. But seeing her determined look, he couldn’t help but trust her.

“Alright, I’ll let you take care of me this time.”

Isabel showed a genuine smile.

After spending lunch with Reggie, Isabel returned to the Bennett villa.

As she approached the villa, she saw Xander aggressively kicking a man on the ground.

It was the first time she had seen Xander so fierce and menacing since she arrived at the villa, almost like a demon.

She realized she had let her guard down recently due to Xander's normally calm demeanor.

But who was he? He was the formidable leader who had overthrown his three uncles to become the head of the Bennetts.

Without ruthless methods and decisive actions, he wouldn't have achieved his position.

Remembering how she had joked around with Xander the day before, she shuddered.

Fortunately, he didn't seem to hold it against her. Otherwise, she might have been kicked out of the Bennetts, complicating her mission.

Just then, Xander's cold voice cut through Isabel's thoughts.

"Who instructed you to attack my brother?"

Curious, Isabel looked inside.

It turned out that Samuel's accident wasn't a random incident but a deliberate attack!

Who would dare to harm the second heir of the Bennetts? They must be seeking death!

Jeff Garner groveled and begged for mercy, "No one instructed me. I was drunk at that time. Mr. Xander, I'm truly sorry for what happened to your brother. Please spare me!"

Xander remained cold as he looked at Jeff.

"I had an investigation done. You're only an ordinary taxi driver. Yet two days before the accident, half a million suddenly appeared in your account."

Jeff's heart sank, and he began to tremble.

"M-my friend transferred it to me ..."

Before he could finish, Xander kicked him hard in the shoulder and stomped on him, causing a painful crunching sound.

"Ah—" Jeff screamed in agony.

“Your friend? Do you have a friend who could transfer half a million to you? My investigation shows that your friends and family don’t have the means to send that much.”

Xander continued to stomp on Jeff.

“It was really an accident! No one instructed me—” Jeff’s words trailed off as he fainted, his eyes rolling back.

Xander’s expression hardened, his entire demeanor becoming as cold as ice.

“Take him away, lock him up, and interrogate him thoroughly every day.”

“Yes, sir.”

After giving those orders, Xander noticed Isabel walking in.

“Did you see everything?” he asked, his fingers clenched and his lips straight.

“Yes,” Isabel replied, watching as Jeff was dragged away.

She had a method to make Jeff reveal the truth—hypnosis, which was her specialty. But using it might raise Xander’s suspicions.

“Do you think I’m cruel? Scary?” Xander asked, watching Isabel’s reaction. He noticed she was focused on Jeff and guessed she might be frightened by his harsh tactics.

Although she seemed fearless before, it was probably because she thought he was merely a refined high-class person. Now that she had seen his ruthless side, it was natural for her to feel scared.

She might even avoid him in the future or go as far as seeking a divorce.

As Xander thought that, Isabel casually peeled an orange and sat on the sofa, looking relaxed.

“Cruel? Is this what you call cruel? If someone harmed my loved ones, I’d be even more ruthless.”

She thought of Reggie and felt a strange sense of empathy for Xander.

Xander was surprised by Isabel’s words, not expecting such a response.

“Are you not afraid of me?”

“Afraid?” Isabel was stunned for a moment. “Why should I be afraid? I haven’t done anything to harm your family.”

Xander slightly smiled, brightening his eyes as he looked at Isabel.

“These oranges are quite good,” Isabel said, putting the oranges in her pocket.

“You can take them all,” Xander said.

“Are you not going to eat it?”

“Just take them.”

“Alright then.” Isabel carried the plate upstairs.

After Isabel went into her room, Xander instructed the butler, “Get more of these oranges.”

“Yes, sir.”

After dinner, Xander knocked on Isabel’s door but received no reply.

Is she out?

Frowning, he was about to leave when he noticed the door was slightly ajar. Listening closely, he could hear faint singing from inside.

He knocked again but got no response.

After a brief pause, he opened the door and walked in.

The room was empty, and the singing came from the bathroom.

Since she was showering, he could wait a bit.

Xander placed the handbag, containing a gown for an upcoming banquet, on the bed. They were going to attend Albert Perkins’ birthday banquet over the weekend, and she needed something nice to wear.

Isabel sang as she dried off, only to realize she had forgotten her pajamas.

She had to wrap herself in a towel and go out.

However, the towel fell to the floor, soaking up water.

Uh, it seems like today’s not my lucky day!

Isabel tossed the wet towel aside. Thinking it was her room, she assumed it didn't matter if she went out shirtless.

With that in mind, she walked out boldly with the bathroom door wide open.

The next moment, she froze in shock when she saw Xander sitting on the bed.

After the Secret Wedding Rise of My Queen Chapter 12

Chapter 12 Take a Look at Mine

Isabel wasn't the only one caught off guard.

Xander's eyes widened in surprise, and he was momentarily taken aback. Despite his usual resistance to female allure, he struggled to tear his gaze away.

"You! I—" Isabel stammered before dashing into the bathroom.

The bathroom door slammed shut with a resounding thud, leaving the room in an awkward silence, though both were far from calm.

Isabel leaned against the cool door to steady her breathing, her cheeks red from embarrassment.

Outside, Xander remained rooted in place, his eyes fixed on the closed bathroom door, unmoving.

The standoff continued until Isabel finally broke the silence.

She knocked on the door and asked, "Uh, are you still out there?"

Xander stood up. "I'll head out now."

"Don't leave."

Xander froze, his heart skipping a beat. He turned his attention back to the bathroom door.

Was she asking him to stay? What was she planning? Had Samuel been right about her intentions being less than pure?

If that were the case, he would stay and see if she showed her true colors.

Just then, Isabel's voice came through again.

"Could you pass me the pajamas on the bed? I forgot to bring them."

Xander glanced at the bed, frowning. Was that why she wanted him to stay? To hand her pajamas?

His anticipation quickly faded as he realized that.

After a brief pause, Xander carried the pajamas to the bathroom.

"Here you go."

As he spoke, he saw the bathroom door crack open, and a soft, delicate arm reached for the clothes.

Xander's breath hitched, his composure momentarily slipping.

Once Isabel took the pajamas and the door closed again, he managed to regain his calm.

When she emerged in her pajamas, she found Xander still seated on her bed.

"Mr. Bennett, don't you think it's a bit inappropriate to enter without knocking?"

Xander looked at her casually and responded, "I knocked, but you didn't answer."

"So you just opened the door like that?" Isabel asked, raising an eyebrow.

"The door wasn't completely shut."

Wasn't shut? Isabel glanced at the door, remembering she had closed it. Had she not closed it properly?

"And I didn't expect you to come out like that from the bathroom," Xander added.

"You—" Isabel winced, replaying the situation in her mind.

"Do you think you suffered a loss?" Xander asked.

“Of course! No man has ever seen me like that!” Isabel retorted, visibly annoyed.

At her words, Xander’s eyes glinted with interest. He then asked probingly, “You and your fiancé were almost married. Haven’t you two—”

Before he could finish, Isabel cut him off.

“Are you up late just to tease me? I admit I’m not as bold as Eva Shepherd, nor do I have her scheming ways. If I had even a fraction of her shamelessness, I’d probably be surrounded by kids with my ex-fiancé by now!”

So they never slept together?

Xander’s fingers, hidden at his side, subtly rubbed together. He revealed a barely visible smile, which fled without her noticing it.

“Now that you’ve had your fun. Can you leave?” Isabel urged him, her irritation growing.

Honestly, if she didn’t have a mission that she had to complete, she would have marched over and knocked Xander out. She had lived through two lifetimes without close contact with a man, but her body was seen by a man. It made her furious.

Just then, Xander removed his suit jacket and began unbuttoning his shirt.

Isabel’s eyes widened in shock as she took in the unexpected scene.

“W-what are you doing?”

Xander remained calm, his voice steady.

“Don’t you think you suffered a loss? You can take a look at mine too.”

Isabel was so stunned by Xander’s actions that she could barely move, her gaze fixed on him as he continued to unbutton his shirt.

After the Secret Wedding Rise of My Queen Chapter 13

Chapter 13 Xander Gets Jealous

Xander’s well-defined physique was now fully visible.

As he was about to unfasten the third button, Isabel quickly intervened.

“Stop! I don’t want to see that! I’m not interested in you

If Xander’s expression hadn’t been so composed, Isabel might have thought he was deliberately trying to tease her.

Her words ‘not interested’ stung Xander’s pride.

As Samuel had mentioned, many wealthy ladies had tried to get his attention, but he had always been indifferent, even disgusted.

Yet, Isabel was saying she wasn’t interested in him.

“Is my physique that unappealing?”

“Huh?” Isabel was taken aback by the question and couldn’t help but glance at his impressive chest.

To be honest, his physique was outstanding.

Xander’s mood brightened a bit when he noticed her gaze.

Clearing her throat, Isabel awkwardly shifted the topic, “Why are you here? Do you need something?”

She then noticed a handbag on the bed. “What’s this?”

“A gown,” Xander responded.

“Is it for the weekend’s banquet?” Isabel asked.

“Yes.”

It turned out he came here to give her a gown. Perhaps he was worried she’d dress poorly and embarrass him.

“Don’t worry. I’ll make sure to look great and make Ms. Perkins regret and envy.”

“Are you going to vent for me?” Xander picked up on the underlying meaning of Isabel’s words and showed a hint of pleasure.

Even though he wasn’t concerned about Tiffany, Isabel’s comment made him happy.

Isabel slightly raised an eyebrow. “You don’t have to feel indebted. I might also need your help later—for a Nittle act to annoy my ex-fiancé.”

As soon as she said that, Xander's expression shifted to one of displeasure like a storm had rolled in.

She wondered what was wrong with him. He was calm a moment ago, but now he seemed as if she owed him something.

Xander stood up, glaring at Isabel. "So, you helped me just to use me later to irritate your ex-fiancé!"

Does she truly have feelings for that man? Willing to marry me and assist me despite her discomfort?

"It's not using you. I-

"I'm tired. Let's discuss this later," Xander interrupted coldly.

He was unwilling to hear more about her ex-fiancé, fearing it would only frustrate him further.

He then strode out of the room, slamming the door behind him.

Isabel stared at the door, baffled.

"Why is he getting upset out of nowhere? Others say a woman's mood changes quickly, but his mood changes even faster."

Frustrated, Isabel grumbled to herself, then took the handbag from the bed and climbed into bed.

She wasn't about to waste any more energy on Xander

The next morning, Isabel headed back to her room after breakfast. She then opened her laptop and began hacking into the Johnson Group's security system.

She wanted to get revenge for her brother.

With her past connections and resources, taking down the Johnson Group would be easy, but she wanted to do it in a way that made Eva, that scheming woman, face the consequences she deserved. She also wanted Kaleb to see how foolish he had been, played by such a manipulative woman, and regret his past actions toward her.

That would be true revenge!

Isabel tapped quickly on the keyboard, creating a blur of motion. Anyone watching would have been astonished by her speed.

In the Johnson Group's CEO's office, Kaleb was reviewing some documents when his assistant, Bobby Jennings, burst in, looking frantic.

"Mr. Johnson, we have a major problem!"

Kaleb frowned, still focused on the documents. "What happened?"

"Our system's been hacked!"

"What?" Kaleb's hand tightened, crumpling the documents.

Immediately, his laptop screen went black, displaying a continuous stream of numbers.

His computer had been hacked too!

Kaleb was shocked. "Get the tech team to stop this right now!"

Ten minutes later, his anger was evident as he stared at the still-dark laptop screen, his rage palpable.

"Is it still not fixed? Is the tech team just idling around? Kaleb swept everything off his desk, including the laptop, in frustration.

Bobby stepped back in fear. "Mr. Johnson, our security system was designed by top experts. Ordinary hackers can't get through it. But someone managed to breach everything in under a minute. Only one person could pull that off."

"You mean the number one hacker in the alliance, Hacker Z?"

"Exactly. No one else could breach the system so quickly."

Kaleb frowned deeply. "Why would she target us? We don't have any issues with her. Was she hired to do this?"

"Most likely."

"Who could have hired her?" Kaleb wondered who he might have upset.

"From what I know, Hacker Z, despite being the top hacker in the alliance, has her rules. She wouldn't hack a company unless there was a strong reason. Why would she take on this job now?"

"That's what I don't understand," Bobby replied. Just then, Kaleb's phone rang.

Kaleb checked his phone and saw it was a call from Isabel. Annoyed, he hung up immediately.

“Hung up?” Isabel set her phone aside and continued her work on the laptop.

Soon, a message appeared on Kaleb’s office laptop screen in bold letters.

“Answer the phone.”

After the Secret Wedding Rise of My Queen Chapter 14

Chapter 14 Lesson for the Blind Ex–fiancé

Kaleb was stunned by the sage on his screen.

He never imagined that Isabel would be involved in this.

With a tense and dark expression, he picked up the phone.

“Was it you?”

“Yes,” Isabel admitted.

“How dare you-” Kaleb’s fingers shook with rage. “Do you know Hacker Z?”

“Not exactly. I just had the chance to help her once.”

So she knew Hacker Z! Why didn’t she mention this before?

“You’re incredibly sneaky to hide that so well!” Kaleb’s voice dripped with sarcasm.

“Am I sneaky? I helped her once and promised not to reveal our connection. I’m just keeping my word. Besides, everyone has their secrets. Even though you were once my fiancé, it doesn’t mean I have to tell you everything.”

Kaleb was left speechless by Isabel’s response.

She continued, “And before you start blaming me, you should think about your secrets. Have you forgotten your affair? The fact that you have a mistress already shows you have serious character flaws!”

Kaleb’s eyes narrowed dangerously. “Mistress? You have no right to use that term against her! You’re no longer kind. How dare you blame me and Eva? If it weren’t for your constant schemes against her, making me lose trust in you repeatedly, you wouldn’t have ended up in this situation! You should blame your ruthless nature!”

The previous Isabel had already said more than enough to defend herself, her tears nearly dried up. Yet, all she got from Kaleb was cold indifference.

So, she was too lazy to argue further.

"I had Hacker Z hack into your company's system not to argue with you."

"You want me to break up with Eva? Want to reconcile and marry me? Not even a chance!" Kaleb snapped back.

Isabel rolled her eyes. "Why should I be with a blind and stupid person like you? Should I keep you and kill you later?"

"You-

"Don't get too full of yourself. Here's the deal—go to the hospital right now and apologize to my brother, or I'll leak your company's secrets to your rivals," Isabel interrupted.

"How dare you!" Kaleb jumped up, unable to contain his fury,

Isabel chuckled with a hint of playfulness. "You may try and see if I'm bluffing."

Kaleb's fists clenched, his teeth grinding as if he wished he could hit Isabel.

"You're truly wicked!"

"Thanks for the compliments. Compared to your dear Eva, I'm still less wicked. It's fine if you don't believe it. You'll soon see Eva's true colors."

"Isabel, you can target me as you wish. If you hurt Eva. I'll make you pay!" Kaleb roared into the phone.

Isabel moved the phone away from her ear, rubbed it, and said, "Do you realize the situation? I hold the power now. If you don't listen to me, I'll skip the apology and go straight to exposing your company's secrets."

Despite his anger, Kaleb knew better than to lash out at Isabel.

He remembered how differently she had acted in the hospital and how Eva had suggested she might have been overly stimulated and became crazy.

So, he chose to avoid provoking Isabel, fearing that she might recklessly expose his company's secrets, leading to significant damage.

"Fine, I'll apologize to your brother!" Kaleb said through gritted teeth.

As soon as he agreed, the laptop screen returned to normal.

Bobby also received a call and asked, "Everything is back to normal? Okay, I got it."

He then reported, "Boss, the company's systems are fully restored."

Kaleb slammed his fist on the desk, feeling frustrated by how controlled he was by Isabel. Half an hour later, he arrived at the hospital and bowed as he apologized to Reggie. "Sorry, I shouldn't have injured you. I'll cover all your medical expenses."

Reggie stared at Kaleb in shock, momentarily unable to process what was happening.

Once Kaleb left, Reggie immediately called Isabel to tell her about the situation.

"Isa, did you do this?"

After the Secret Wedding Rise of My Queen Chapter 15

Chapter 15 Xander Scoops Isabel Up

"Yes," Isabel replied honestly.

"What's going on? Why did Kaleb apologize to me?" Reggie asked, surprised. It seemed like Kaleb had been pressured into it.

He couldn't believe that Isabel had managed to force the CEO of the Johnson Group.

"It's a long story. I once had the chance to help Hacker Z, so..." Isabel briefly explained the situation to Reggie.

After a few more minutes of conversation, she ended the call.

Standing by the window, Isabel looked outside.

She had been at the villa for several days. With Xander out and Samuel not home, she took the opportunity to explore.

That was her plan until an unexpected visitor showed up at the villa.

"Is she the one who married Xan?" The girl in an elegant dress scrutinized Isabel with an unfriendly stare.

"Yes, Ms. Lawson," the maid answered.

Ms. Lawson? Isabel recognized the name from the maids' earlier conversation.

"Who are you?" Isabel asked, feigning ignorance.

She had thoroughly researched Xander for her mission, so she knew the girl was Rachel Lawson, the adopted daughter of Xander's mother and his childhood sweetheart.

Rachel approached Isabel, lifting her chin with a smug look.

"I'm Rachel Lawson. I grew up with Xan and have feelings for him, which he reciprocates. But the annoying Tiffany has come between us. I finally managed to break off their engagement, and now you're interfering."

Isabel immediately understood something.

"So you're the one behind the rumors about Xander being unattractive. You spread those rumors to make Tiffany back off."

"I didn't expect you'd figure it out." Rachel was surprised. "Well, that's normal. If you weren't sharp, you wouldn't have used Sam to get Xan to marry you"

"Thanks for the compliment. You're not stupid either," Isabel said, casually picking up an orange from the table and peeling it.

To her surprise, this variety of orange had a pretty good taste.

Rachel's displeasure was evident, whether it was from Isabel's words or her attitude.

After a moment, Rachel signaled her bodyguard, who placed a black briefcase in front of Isabel.

The briefcase opened to reveal stacks of cash.

"Here's 200 thousand. Take it and leave Xan," Rachel said dismissively, clearly treating Isabel like a beggar.

Isabel glanced at the money, sneering internally. 200 thousand? That wouldn't even be enough to cover two dresses.

"Take it back. I don't need it."

Thinking the amount was insufficient, Rachel had the bodyguard bring over another suitcase.

"Here's 400 thousand. It should be enough for you to spend for a long time."

Isabel ignored the offer and continued eating her orange.

Rachel's frustration grew. "Don't push your luck. You need to leave today, whether you want it or not. Claiming you can heal Sam's leg? Xan might be momentarily confused, but we're not fools. You're overestimating yourself!"

"Are you finished? You don't seem tired, but I'm getting fed up with your nagging." Isabel frowned. The constant noise was ruining her enjoyment of the orange. She was here for a mission, not to bicker with Xander's childhood sweetheart.

"How dare you!" Rachel shouted.

At that moment, a maid hurried over. "Ms. Lawson, Mr. Xander is back!"

"He's back?" Rachel turned toward the door. With the sound of approaching footsteps, she knew he would arrive soon.

An idea struck her.

Rachel abruptly slapped her face, then staggered and fell dramatically in front of Xander as he entered.

"Y—you hit me?" She cried out, pointing at Isabel with tears. Isabel calmly continued eating her orange, noting that Rachel and Eva had similar scheming tendencies. Honestly, she even wondered if they might be related.

Of course, it wasn't the time for such thoughts. Based on her knowledge of Xander, even though he wasn't as blind as Kaleb, Rachel was still his godsister. They had a childhood relationship as well. So, she couldn't be so passive.

Pretending to be pathetic, huh? It wasn't something she would have done before, but she was prepared to act the part now.

Just as Isabel was about to start her act, she was suddenly hit with severe stomach pain.

"Ugh!" She clutched her stomach and sank to the floor.

Gosh! How could I have overlooked this?

Her current body was suffering from a serious stomach liscase, and her stomach condition had been aggravated by eating too many cooling oranges.

Xander, who had just helped Rachel up, saw Isabel writhing in pain on the floor. Without a second thought, he dropped Rachel's hand and rushed to Isabel's side.

Rachel was furious that Xander was paying more attention to Isabel than to her.

Her anger intensified.

“Are you alright?” Xander asked with concern.

Isabel wished she could disappear. She felt embarrassed to admit that her stomach pain was due to overeating.

“I—I’m fine.”

Fine? Xander frowned as he observed Isabel closely.

Her face was pale, her lips were colorless, and sweat was forming on her forehead.

She didn’t appear fine at all.

Xander suddenly recalled something and turned to Rachel.

“Did Rachel do something to you?” he asked Isabel.

“I didn’t! Xan, you’re making a mistake. I-” Rachel’s protest was cut off by Xander.

“I’m asking Isabel.”

Seeing that Xander was upset, Rachel dared not say more.

Isabel looked at Rachel and thought it was quite a coincidence. Originally, she had planned to use her pathetic act to get back at Rachel. However, given her current stomach pain, framing Rachel might not work and could lead to problems later. So, she decided it was better to be honest.

“It’s not her fault. I’m just not feeling well.”

Xander’s expression darkened, clearly skeptical of the coincidence.

“Can you get up?”

“Yes,” Isabel said through gritted teeth. She tried to stand with the help of the sofa but struggled, feeling dizzy and on the verge of falling.

Just as she was about to collapse, Xander swiftly moved to her side, scooping her up.