

Chapter 42 Isabel's Blind Date (Part Four)

"Reg!" Isabel stepped forward, positioning herself between Colin and Reggie. Her eyes were cold with fury as she glared at Colin.

Colin looked at the siblings, who now stood against him. He wished he had never fathered them.

Reggie placed a hand on Isabel's shoulder, his eyes soft as he spoke to her. "Isa, let me handle this."

"Okay." Isabel nodded and stepped back behind him.

Reggie took a deep breath, his face serious as he addressed Colin. "Now I understand. You've never seen Isa and me as your children. We're just tools to you, useful when you need us, discarded when you don't. A few days ago, during the stay in the hospital, you severed your ties with us. So now I'm taking Isa away. Don't ever think you can use us again."

Colin, enraged, raised his hand to strike Reggie again.

But this time, Reggie caught his wrist mid-air.

"Yes, you may have fathered me, but I'm my own person. You have no right to hit me."

"You ungrateful brat! That's exactly what you are!" Colin spat, gritting his teeth.

"Reg, don't bother with him. Let's go," Isabel said, looking up at her brother.

Reggie nodded and agreed, "Let's go."

Together, they began walking toward the door.

"Stop! Both of you, stop right there!" Colin bellowed after them.

Isabel ignored the crazed shouts behind her, pulling Reggie along with her.

Unable to hold back any longer, Colin stormed after them, shouting, "Isabel, you're not going anywhere! This blind date isn't over!"

Just as Isabel reached for the door, it swung open. Xander stood there, prepared to knock.

How did he get here so fast?

"Is it over?" Xander's voice was calm as his cold gaze swept the room, finally settling on Clive, who weighed well over 200 pounds.

Xander's eyes narrowed, his thin lips pressed into a line.

So, Isabel's family was truly heartless, trying to marry her off to someone like that.

"It's over. Let's go," Isabel answered.

Reggie looked between Isabel and Xander, confused. "Isa, who is he?"

Isabel's brow arched mischievously, a sly grin forming as she looped her arm around Xander's. Then she turned to Colin and introduced, "Mr. Zimmerman, allow me to introduce my boyfriend."

The room fell silent at her remarks.

"You—what did you just say? Boyfriend? Since when? Who gave you permission to have a boyfriend?" Colin shouted.

"Oh, please!" Isabel laughed mockingly. "I'm in my twenties. Do I need your approval to date someone? What century do you believe we are living in? And besides, I've already cut ties with you. Who do you think you are to tell me what to do?"

Clive turned to Amelia and asked, "What's going on here? Didn't you say she didn't have a boyfriend?"

Amelia forced a sheepish smile. "Mr. Hicks, don't worry. She probably just found someone to pretend to be her boyfriend. You know how young people are nowadays."

Clive seemed to believe her.

But then Isabel stood on her tiptoes and planted a kiss on the corner of Xander's lips. She pouted playfully, "Why did you take so long? Weren't you worried that creepy old man might advantage over me?"

Xander's sharp brows softened as he looked down at her with affectionate guilt. "I'm sorry, that's my fault."

Isabel's eyes widened a bit. She thought her acting was already pretty convincing, but she hadn't expected Xander to play along so well. It almost felt real, like he actually fell for her.

Colin stormed over, glaring at Xander. "Where did this little punk come from? How dare you try to hit on my daughter! Get out, or I'll render you impotent!

"Hiss—" Isabel sucked in a breath. If Colin knew he was insulting the CEO of Bennett Group, what would he think? He'd probably collapse on the spot.

She couldn't help but glance up at Xander's face.

Glancing up at Xander, she took in his poised demeanor—long, dark brows, a straight nose, and thin lips set in a firm line. He seemed gentle, but beneath that calm exterior was a man who commanded fear.

"You're Isabel's father?" Xander asked, his dark eyes narrowing slightly.

"Obviously!" Colin huffed.

"Doesn't seem like it," Xander said simply. Xander said coolly.

"What did you say?" Colin's voice trembled with anger.

"I said, you don't seem like a father. You seem more like a human trafficker, the kind who deserves to be punished by the law." Xander replied coolly, his tone calm but menacing.

Colin clenched his fists, his body shaking with fury. "Me? A trafficker? You're the one trying to take my daughter!"

His gaze shifted back to Isabel.

"I knew something was off! My daughter's been acting so different lately. She used to be disappointing but at least obedient. Now it's like she's a completely different person—rebellious and willful. It turns out it's all because of you! You've corrupted my daughter. I'm warning you: get lost! Don't think I don't know what a pretty boy like you're up to!

"You're just after the prestige of my family, thinking that marrying my daughter will let you rise to the top. I've seen plenty of freeloaders like you that live off others. Get away from my daughter right now, or I won't be so polite!"

A freeloader? Xander?

Isabel was completely stunned by Colin's ridiculous assumptions, leaving her speechless.

But after a moment, she couldn't help but laugh inwardly. If it really came down to a contest of wealth between her and Xander, he might actually lose. After all, she literally owned mine.

"Let's not waste time on him. Come on, let's go." Isabel grabbed Xander's with one hand and Reggie's with the other, and they walked out.

Colin was nearly bursting with anger.

"Stop them!" He shouted.

At his command, several bodyguards wearing sunglasses stepped forward, blocking their path.

Isabel turned to Reggie and urged, "Reg, don't get involved. You're still not fully healed. If you get hurt again, you'll end up back in the hospital."

Reggie frowned and argued, "But there are so many of them."

"It's fine. We've got—"

"Leo," Xander's voice cut off Isabel's words.

"Yes, boss," Leo responded, stepping forward. In a few swift moves, he knocked down all of the bodyguards.

"Whoa! Nice work, Leo! That was awesome!" Isabel gave Leo a thumbs up.

Xander's eyes darkened slightly. He had originally let Leo handle it to avoid ruining his gentlemanly image in front of Isabel. But now he kind of wishes he had taken care of it himself.

Sensing his boss's gaze, Leo quickly turned to Isabel and said, "Thank you for the compliment, Mrs. Bennett."