

Chapter 74 Xander Stands Up for Isabel

Xander ignored Lillian and glanced at the women's restroom. When he saw that Isabel wasn't out yet, he patiently waited.

Lillian was annoyed by Xander's dismissive attitude, but she couldn't truly be angry when faced with his handsome face.

"Hey, how much did Isabel pay you?"

Xander continued to ignore her, treating Lillian as if she were invisible.

"I'll give you double what she's paying you if you break up with her," Lillian offered, finally getting a reaction from Xander.

Xander looked down at Lillian, his expression flat. "I don't want her money, I'm even willing to pay her."

Lillian's face instantly twisted in disbelief at his words.

"Pfft—" Isabel couldn't help but laugh out loud.

It was no wonder Isabel found it hilarious. Xander's serious face saying something so infuriatingly outrageous was just too funny!

And Lillian's look of defeat was pretty funny.

Isabel's laughter drew the attention of both Xander and Lillian.

Xander glanced at Isabel, who was struggling to hold back her laughter, and a fond yet exasperated smile appeared on his face.

She should have been out of the toilet ages ago. Seeing someone hitting on me, she just stood there watching, like a spectator.

"Isabel!" Lillian gritted her teeth, spitting out the name.

Isabel ignored Lillian's glare, came to Xander's side, and deliberately took Xander's arm in front of Lillian, "Come on, let's go in and watch a movie."

Xander's gaze subtly flicked over Isabel's hand on his arm, a hint of satisfaction crossing his features.

Seeing the two about to leave and feeling the curious stares from those around her, Lillian felt her face burning with embarrassment. In a rush, she dashed forward to block their path.

Pulling out a card, Lillian looked up at Xander and said, "Here's a hundred thousand. If you come with me right now, this money is yours!"

She shot a challenging glance at Isabel, raising her chin defiantly as if to say: watch me take your pretty boy away!

Xander was annoyed and said, "Move aside! You're blocking the way."

Lillian froze for a moment, taken aback.

A hundred thousand! That was a lot of money—her hard-earned pocket money. While it might not be much for someone from a wealthy family, why was this man, who was merely a gigolo, turning it down?

Could it be that Isabel was offering him more?

The thought crossed her mind, but she quickly dismissed it.

No way!

Isabel had been kicked out of the house. There was no way she had enough money to give to a man.

So why was Xander still staying with her?

As Lillian considered this, she suddenly remembered what Xander had just said.

He was paying Isabel?

No way! Could that really be true?

Annoying!

"Isabel, you shameless girl! Just because you're pretty, you think you can flirt with every man you meet!" Lillian shouted at Isabel, her voice laced with anger.

Lillian's shout immediately drew attention, with many people turning to look at Isabel and whispering among themselves.

Unsurprisingly, their remarks weren't very kind.

Lillian was very pleased with the reactions of the people around her. She placed her hands on her hips and pressed on, "Kaleb dumped you because he had sharp eyes and saw through your cruel nature. But he didn't expect you to push your rival to the point of miscarriage and push your future mother-in-law into the pool. A man would have to be blind to fall for someone as cruel as you!"

As Lillian continued, the crowd's gazes toward Isabel became increasingly peculiar, tinged with clear disdain, while the whispers grew harsher.

Isabel and Xander came to an abrupt halt at the same moment.

Xander's face was as cold as the wind, his lips pressed tightly together, and a dangerous aura surrounded him. Just as he was about to lose his temper, Isabel spoke up.

"Lillian, my silence doesn't mean I can't stand up to you. I just don't want to waste my time on someone like you."

"You—"

"What about me? Just because you're shouting doesn't make you right. You're only trying to gather an audience to mock me, right? Accusing me of causing the mistress to miscarry? Have you been living under a rock? The truth is already out. The mistress faked her pregnancy to trap that blind fool, then staged a fall at my wedding with a blood pack to make it look like a miscarriage."

"And that so-called mother-in-law was just part of the mistress's scheme to drive a wedge between me and that blind fool. She pushed her into the pool and tried to frame me for it."

Isabel's firm words shifted the atmosphere instantly.

"So that's how it was! I thought she seemed too innocent to do something so underhanded."

"Yeah, I misjudged her, too."

"It's not your fault. If anyone's at fault, it's the one shouting at the top of their lungs. I didn't notice it before, but now it's clear that girl was trying to get our attention on purpose."

"And you won't believe it. I actually saw her offer money to that guy to break up with her!"

"Tsk, ts, tsk, it's terrifying!"

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Hearing these hurtful comments, Lillian felt both embarrassment and anger, wishing she could just disappear.

Gritting her teeth, Lillian steeled herself to confront Isabel again. "Go ahead and spin your tales. Just because you sound confident doesn't mean you're right."

"Don't believe it? Because of Kaleb, this matter has not been spread. But as long as you are willing to ask, you can still find out."

Then, Isabel was done wasting her breath on Lillian. She turned to Xander, saying, "The movie's about to start. Let's go inside."

"Sure," Xander said, then took out his phone to send a message to Leo.

"I'm so angry!" Lillian fumed, stomping her foot in frustration.

Her friend, Mimi Graham, stepped forward and said, "Lily, it's not worth getting upset over someone like Isabel. The movie is about to start. Let's just head in and enjoy it."

Lillian had nearly lost all interest in watching the movie after the confrontation, but Mimi's words brought her back to reality. Why should Isabel, someone she'd always looked down on, ruin her evening?

"You're right, let's go in," she agreed, determined not just to watch the movie but to enjoy it and show Isabel that she wasn't bothered at all.

However, just as Lillian and Mimi reached the theater entrance, they were unexpectedly stopped by a staff member.

"Sorry, but you can't go in."

Lillian's eyes widened in disbelief. "Why not?"

The staff member, raising his voice deliberately for all to hear, replied with a stern expression, "Due to your previous misconduct in our cinema, the management has instructed that you're no longer allowed in."

His voice echoed loudly, drawing attention from the nearby crowd.

People began glancing in their direction, including Isabel.

Isabel paused, turning to watch along with the rest of the crowd.

"What misconduct? You're just making this up!" Lillian snapped, feeling the heat of all the stares directed her way.

The staff member shouted, "You've been caught spitting, littering, and verbally abusing staff in the cinema. Your behavior has ruined other people's movie experience."

Lillian's eyes widened in disbelief, her ears filled with whispers and judgmental murmurs from the crowd, making her feel both angry and desperate to flee.

"It wasn't me! You've got the wrong person! I'd never do something like that!"

To be honest, even Isabel thought the staff might have made a mistake. Despite Lillian's bratty and domineering nature, as the semi-adopted daughter of the Zimmermans, she didn't seem like the type to behave so recklessly in public.

The staff member raised their voice without hesitation, "We didn't make a mistake—it was you. Not only did you behave without any manners, but you also relieved yourself on the floor! You'd better leave now, or we'll have security escort you out!"

Isabel blinked in disbelief, her eyes wide.

Relieving herself on the floor? I can't wrap my head around it. No way could that be true!

Lillian stood there, utterly speechless, her face turning red with humiliation. Even Mimi took a step back, quietly distancing herself from Lillian, as if to avoid being associated with the accusation.

I don't know her. What a humiliation ...

"Oh my god! This girl is pretty and dressed neatly, but I didn't expect she has no manners! Littering is bad enough, but peeing and pooping anywhere she wants is just disgusting."

"I'm disgusted just thinking about it."

Hearing those hurtful remarks and witnessing the disdainful looks directed at her, Lillian felt on the verge of tears.

"It wasn't me! I swear it wasn't!"

The staff, now visibly irritated, instructed security to kick her out.

Isabel turned her attention from the yelling Lillian to Xander. "Don't you find this weird?"

"In what way?"

Isabel studied Xander's face closely, noticing his calm expression showed no hint of emotion—neither irritation nor amusement.

"Wasn't it you who did it?"

"Not my business. It's her lack of manners," Xander replied flatly.

Isabel looked in disbelief.

Xander shifted the conversation, asking, "Want some popcorn?"

"Yeah." Isabel nodded, dropping the subject.

"I'll get some. Just wait here," he said before making his way to the concession stand.

As Isabel turned her gaze back, she noticed a man's phone left on the seat.

Just as she reached for it, the screen lit up with an incoming call from Leo.

It was after work hours, so Leo's call at this time must be urgent.

Isabel glanced toward the entrance of the screening room. Xander had just left and wouldn't be back for a while. She decided to answer the call in his place.

As soon as she tapped to accept, Leo's excited voice came through.

"Boss, what do you think of my work? Isn't it exciting?"