

## Once Cast 171

### Chapter 171 A Risky Plan

Aella said, "If it helps me get a divorce, I'll play the villain. I hope he hates me so much he kicks me out himself."

Brad straightened up and set his glass down. "I booked a place for a get-together with some friends tonight. Come by after work, I'll bring Sixer along too."

Aella asked, "Can I bring Ms. Caldwell along with me?"

Brad answered, "Sure, no problem at all."

After Brad left, Aella paced back and forth in front of the tall window by herself, thinking through the plan.

Then Aella made two calls: one to a friend she had not spoken to in a long time, and another to

Zera.

A little after 7 p.m. at the Regal Club, Aella waited near the ground-floor dance floor for more than ten minutes.

A young man walked up, slipped something into her palm, and then walked away without a fuss.

Aella nervously tucked the item into her bag and turned to leave right away.

She felt guilty the whole way up to the third floor, and when she arrived, Zera and Sayer were already waiting outside the private room.

Aella glanced down the corridor and asked, "Why didn't you go in first?"

Zera answered shyly, "I don't really know the people inside; I'd feel weird going in without you."

Sayer grabbed Aella and asked in a teasing way, "Aella, why are you sweating so much?"

Aella pushed Sayer away and covered with a quick excuse. "I ran up because I was afraid you'd been waiting too long. Got a little out of breath."

Aella looked calm on the surface, but she was panicking inside,

Sizer seems unreliable, but his eyes are sharp as hell.

I have to be careful for a little while longer.

This is a golden opportunity, and I can't afford to lose it.

I have to make sure Tyrone and Zera end up in the same bed tonight.

The three of them pushed open the door and entered the private room, and the loud, lively crowd inside suddenly became strangely silent.

"Sorry, I brought two friends," Aella said with a smile as she walked in and introduced Zera and Sayer to everyone there.

Her gaze

fell on the empty seat next to Tyrone, and she took off her shoulder bag and moved toward that spot.

Before her bottom even touched the couch, Brad pulled her up by surprise.

Then Brad promptly shoved Zera into the seat beside Tyrone.

Aella was taken aback by Brad's bold move and did not react right away.

Raine, who was sitting on Tyrone's other side, stood up and offered her seat, saying, "Aella, come sit over here."

Aella was about to go when Sayer grabbed her arm and said, "Aella, let's not squeeze in with them."

Aella felt momentarily stunned and confused.

From that distance, how can I possibly slip anything into Tyrone's drink without being seen?

Raine pointed at Zera and asked Tyrone loudly, "Tyrone, Aella is still here. What are you doing?"

Zera tried to stand up in embarrassment, but Tyrone grabbed her wrist and pulled her back down.

Brad pushed Raine back onto the seat and said, "This is grown-up business. Kids like you need to understand. Just sit down and enjoy yourself."

don't

Everyone exchanged puzzled looks and whispered to one another.

The group was small, so the gossip about Zera and Tyrone from the Leadverse Group year-end party had already spread through the circle.

Seeing Aella show up with Zera tonight was a shock, but not totally unexpected.

Brad told everyone to start the drinks, and Aella quickly stopped Sayer. "You're having juice."

Sayer held tightly to his beer and protested, "Aella, who comes to a place like this and drinks juice? Juice is for kids. I'm not drinking that."

Zera hurriedly took a row of milk drinks out of her bag and offered them, "Mrs. Winter, maybe Mr. Locke can drink this instead?"

Aella handed a bottle to Sayer and said, "If you don't want juice, then you can have milk."

Sayer took the bottle reluctantly and put it to his lips.

Aella stole a glance at Tyrone and saw him sitting there with a cold face, drinking as usual.

She hesitated for a moment, then gave Zera a discreet look and said, "I'm going to the restroom: Ms. Caldwell, do you want to come with me?"

Zera understood the hint at once and nodded.

They slipped to the restroom together.

Aella secretly put a small paper bag into Zera's hand and whispered, "I can't get close enough to do it myself; put what's in this into Tyrone's drink so he'll swallow it."

Zera's legs went weak at once, and she pushed Aella away, saying, "Mrs. Winter, I can't do that!"

Aella scanned the room carefully and then pressed the packet back into Zera's palm. "If you can give me another kid, I'll make sure you get what you want. Don't worry. If anything goes wrong, blame me I'll protect you."

Zera gripped the pills tightly, trembling all over.

The plan was dangerous, but it was the fastest route to achieve her goal.

If she could actually get pregnant with Tyrone's child, everything else would fall into place.

Zera studied Aella's face and asked cautiously, "Mrs. Winter, you say this so nicely now, but the pills are in my hand. If I get caught, I'm screwed. What then?"

People look out for themselves first.

No matter how sweet Aella sounded now, when trouble came, she might cut ties to protect herself, and Zera would be the one destroyed.

Aella did not expect Zera to be so careful and wary.

But if she wanted to win, she had to play dirty.

If Aella could have done it alone, she wouldn't have had to drag Zera into it.