

Chapter 294

Busy days always passed quickly, and soon the exam day arrived.

Because there were too many applicants, the test was held at Highend University, which also happened to be Autumn's alma mater.

Three years later, stepping onto campus again, Autumn felt a rush of emotion. It had been three years, but finally, she was back.

The year she graduated, too much had happened all at once, leaving her overwhelmed.

Now, walking these grounds again, her state of mind was completely different.

Back then, Julian had proposed to her here. That scene was still vivid, as if it had happened only yesterday.

But now, she and Julian were divorced, and not on good terms.

Because of Sienna's stupidity and the Carter family's ruthless actions, she and Julian were now locked in open hostility. 1

Even her two older brothers had sided with Julian, trying to push her out of Vanguard, even plotting to blacklist her across the entire industry.

This was the man she had once gone out of her way to please, and now he was working against her.

The thought was bitterly ironic.

When Luna spotted Autumn, she caught sight of her looking rather



lonely, and the fact that she was here at all came as a surprise.

Didn't she know her own limits? Just because she had studied under Ethan for a while, she thought she was capable?

How ridiculously overconfident.

Ryan and Grant, who had come with Luna, also noticed Autumn's presence.

Their contempt was practically spilling from their eyes, as if the words ridiculously overconfident were written across their faces.

Ryan gave a cold snort, crossing his arms. "Well, Autumn, do you even understand what this exam means?

"How does an amateur like you have the nerve to show up here? Aren't you afraid they'll throw you out?

"Someone as clueless and ungrateful as you actually thinks you deserve to be here? Do you even have an admission ticket?"

After all, Sienna's imprisonment had started with Autumn, and now she was the prime target of both the Carter and Lewis families.

Even though they all knew what the truth really was, they would never admit it.

Both the Carter and Lewis families had pressured Vanguard, yet somehow Autumn had managed to make Ethan choose keeping her over keeping their partnerships.

As Ryan spoke, he deliberately raised his voice, drawing stares from



the crowd.

Someone in the crowd recognized Autumn and screamed, "Isn't that Sienna Carter's so-called best friend—the backstabbing snake?"

"And she still has the nerve to show up for the exam? Isn't she afraid someone might beat her up? If I were her, I'd be hiding at home and never dare step outside."

The girl's words quickly stirred the crowd, and more people gathered, pointing at Autumn and whispering.

"Oh my God, she really is that infamous snake of a friend! She threw her so-called bestie into prison and now dares to come take the test? Shameless."

"Exactly. I heard she's got someone powerful backing her. But who'd want to sit the same exam as her? What if she drags us down too?"

"Get out of here! People like you don't belong here. You should be treated like a rat in the street—everyone chasing you away."

"Trash like her should be locked up for good. Don't let her out to ruin anyone else's life."

Listening to the jeers around her, Luna's mood lifted, the corner of her lips curving into a smile.

The smear campaign was working well—Autumn had already become the rat everyone despised, an object of collective shame.