

My Accidental Husband Is My Revenge Partner

- Chapter 41 – 50

C 41

We Don't Need To Be Friends

Selene halts her steps. She turned back to look at Xavier while her face looked no different than a tomato at that moment.

"What did you say?" She asked, hoping she had misheard the first time and her mind was playing a trick on her.

"What if I'm in love with you?" Xavier repeated.

"You are not," Selene said. "You can't be in love with me," she added, staring around the garden to find words she could add but was interrupted when Michelle came out of nowhere.

"Selene, Xavier. What are you two doing here?" Michelle asked through a forced smile. She had heard the question Xavier asked Selene and she couldn't believe her ears.

'Here I am trying to make him notice me and she is seducing him,' Michelle thought to herself.

"We were just talking," Selene replied before she limped back inside the mansion, leaving Michelle and Xavier behind.

Michelle glared at Selene's back but quickly changed her expression when she looked at Xavier.

"Xavier, can we talk?" She asked, her voice very gentle and internally hoping that Xavier wouldn't dismiss her like the other times.

"What do you want?" Xavier questioned, his tone impatient as he waited for her to speak.

Michelle forced her lips open before she spoke, "It's been close to nine months already since our ID cards were exchanged at the city hall. I'm ready to divorce Richard so that we can get married. That was the original plan, Xavier. Let's get married."

Each day that passed by, Michelle could feel her patience wearing off with Richard. She only wanted to be married to Xavier but the latter didn't seem to want to give her what she wanted.

"I'm never going to get married to you, Michelle. So you should forget about that marriage," Xavier spat in her face, immediately hurting her ego.

Michelle felt herself shrink back at Xavier's words.

"In case you don't understand the message I've been passing across to you, let me say it out loud then," said Xavier turning to face her as he continued. "You and I are never going to get married, today, tomorrow, or in the future. If you want to divorce Richard, you can go ahead and do as you please. But I won't repeat myself, Michelle. We are never getting married." After saying what he wanted to say, he walked back inside the mansion.

Michelle stood frozen. She gripped her chest as if it was going to burst with how fast her heart was beating.

Tears streamed down her face uncontrollably as Xavier's words repeated in her mind even though he was no longer there.

"This is not possible," she mumbled to herself.

Months ago, after they found out that Xavier was back from his business trip, they tried to make him sign the divorce papers that Anastasia had already signed, but he would always make excuses.

If only they knew that he was just waiting for Anastasia to wake up so that she could tell him how she landed in the deep forest.

Michelle's expression suddenly changed to that of someone who wanted to shed blood.

Selene's image suddenly appeared in her mind.

"It's all because of that woman, that slut," Michelle said.

She had already gotten rid of Anastasia but Selene had to come out of nowhere and seduce Xavier.

"She's gonna get it," she forced through gritted teeth.

Wiping her tears away, Michelle made sure there wasn't any kind of sign that showed she had just cried. When she confirmed it, she went back inside.

Dinner was ready.

Everyone took a seat while Xavier sat down beside Selene when he saw Richard walking towards the empty seat beside her.

Richard had to go sit down beside his wife who was still fuming internally.

The dining table was filled with happy talks while old Wallace tried to persuade Selene to consider marrying Xavier.

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'If only she knew that I was already married to Xavier and I'm her granddaughter-in-law,' Selene thought to herself as she kept her facial expression neutral.

Old Wallace kept talking nonstop until her daughter-in-law, Xavier's mother told her to stop else her blood pressure was going to shoot up.

The old woman obeyed her daughter-in-law and only spoke a few times until they finished dinner.

Selene didn't have to look to know that Michelle was glaring at her which only made her wonder if Michelle didn't know she was being so obvious.

"Is there a problem, Michelle?" Selene suddenly called her out.

"It's nothing. I was just wondering if you would be going back to the shoot tomorrow, is your leg all better?" Michelle asked to cover up.

"I will be," Selene replied.

After they finished dinner, old Wallace was taken away by Xavier's mother so that she could take her medicines and sleep.

Xavier had to discuss something with his dad real quick. Michelle went upstairs, saying she needed to have something done, which left Selene to be alone with Richard.

Selene resisted the urge to puke when she made eye contact with Richard. The latter stared at her as if she was some meal he wanted to eat even though he just had dinner.

"So Selene, I heard that you are acting in the same movie as Michelle, are you two friends now?" Richard suddenly asked which had Selene frown slightly.

'Why would he be asking me such a question?' Selene wondered.

"We are friends," she replied, getting up to move to another couch but Richard stood up as well and followed behind her.

He was so close to her that she thought he was going to glue himself to her any moment.

“So that means we can be friends right?” He asked, a smirk on his lips. “You are already friends with my wife and I don’t see anything wrong if we become friends as well,” he winked at her, licking his lips again.

“Mr Wallace, I don’t think there’s any reason we would need to be friends,” said Selene, wary of Richard.

C 42

Why Is He Here?

“So that means we can be friends right?” He asked, a smirk on his lips. “You are already friends with my wife and I don’t see anything wrong if we become friends as well,” he winked at her, licking his lips again.

“Mr Wallace, I don’t think there’s any reason we would have to be friends,” said Selene, wary of Richard.

“And why not? I don’t see anything wrong with that.”

Selene gritted her teeth, trying to keep her composure.

“Mr Wallace—”

“Call me Richard,” he winked.

“I think I will stick with Mr Wallace. We don’t need to be friends. If you don’t leave my side this second, I promise you I will yell out that you want to assault me,” she threatened, glaring at him so that he would know she wasn’t joking at all.

Richard’s expression immediately darkened.

He moved a few feet away from her.

“Playing hard to get, huh?” He asked, shaking his head. “Anastasia wasn’t hard to get. She surrendered herself to me quite easily and let me do whatever I wanted to do with her body,” he added, closing his eyes as if reminiscing those moments.

Selene felt goosebumps rise on her skin.

She suddenly remembered her old self, how her father would come into her room late at night, her brother next, and then Richard. They would use her body however they pleased before leaving.

Selene sighed loudly, trying to get those thoughts out of her mind. She might have changed her name but the memories of her past were still imprinted in her mind and she couldn't forget them no matter how much she tried.

"Excuse me but it seemed you might have forgotten, Mr Wallace. I'm Selene, Selene Jones and it's inappropriate for you to be talking to me like that," she reminded, her tone harsh. "If you come closer to me ever again, I will report you to your brother Xavier," she added.

Richard's expression darkened again. He gritted his teeth before he left the living room.

Selene sighed when she saw Richard leave the room.

"Animal," she mumbled under her breath.

Xavier came down with his dad. He noticed the sweat glistening on Selene's forehead and asked, "Why are you sweating?"

Selene touched her forehead, only just realizing she was sweating. "Ahh...it's nothing," she replied.

Xavier gave her a look, not believing a word she said.

"I will take you home," he said.

"No need, Michelle said she would be taking me home. She was the one who brought me here," she said.

Xavier gave her a questioning look and she read through it perfectly.

Would you rather let Michelle take you home in the middle of the night or let me do it?

"I will wait for her to come down so that I can tell her I will be going home with you instead."

"There's no need. When she comes down and doesn't see you around, I'm sure she can figure it out," Xavier responded.

"Take care, Xavier," said his father. "And you too Selene," he added, looking at her.

The middle-aged man didn't need glasses to see what was happening.

Xavier didn't care about women but the care he showed towards Selene only meant one thing.

Both Selene and Xavier walked out of the mansion. They got into the car and zoomed off.

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The ride was silent, without a word being said.

"So will you tell me why you were sweating earlier?" Xavier brought back the topic.

Selene kept mute. She didn't want to involve Xavier in everything. She had threatened Richard away and believed that was enough and he wouldn't try anything again.

"I just got a little anxious earlier, but I'm fine now," she replied.

Xavier hummed, dropping the topic. He wanted to ask her another question but decided against it.

They arrived at the mansion and Selene rushed in as always so that she could get away from Xavier. Since she already had dinner, all she needed to do was practice her lines until it was time to go to bed.

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"CUT!!" Director Jeunes screamed over the microphone, hurting the eardrums of everyone else except his.

"Michelle, you are supposed to show how angry you are when you are talking back at him," he reminded. Michelle didn't seem ready to shoot her lines. She had been making mistakes nonstop. "I've told you several times, don't cry, just show how angry you are and say your lines correctly," he added, slapping his forehead, clearly exasperated. "How on earth did she become an A-list celebrity when she can't even get one scene right in one take?" Director wondered, shaking his head slightly.

On the other hand, Michelle wanted to leave the set. They repeated the same scene about seven times. She was all sweaty and sticky from being under the sun for several hours. No matter what she did, or how she did it, director Jeunes would always find fault somewhere.

She was acting with Liam and the latter was also clearly annoyed with her acting. He was also tired of standing under the scorching hot sun just so that she would get her lines right and show the right expression.

Selene was behind director Jeunes, trying to hold back her laughter.

“She looks so pitiful,” Kace mumbled from beside her as he tried to hold back his laughter as well.

“Alright alright, let’s take an hour break. Maybe that would help you get your lines right,” said director Jeunes.

Everyone dispersed. They were also tired of standing and waiting for Michelle to get her lines right.

Kace excused himself to use the toilet.

“Selene.”

Selene heard her name being called by someone. Her eyes landed on Liam.

“We have never really spoken to each other much even though we are the main leads of the movie. I just wanted to compliment you on your acting. You look like a pro even though you are just a newbie.”

Selene revealed a smile before she responded, “Thank you so much. I can also say the same to you too.”

Selene had only shared a few words with Liam since the latter always looked like he was offended by someone all the time.

Selene’s eyes caught a figure and her eyes widened in shock.

‘What is Xavier doing here?’

C 43

Is She On Drugs?

Xavier glared in the direction where Selene was standing with an unknown man. His eyes darkened at the man. And without even realizing it, Xavier started comparing his physique with the unknown man.

‘I’m more muscular than him,’ he thought to himself.

Xavier marched to where they were, his movement gaining attention. The girls blushed when they saw Xavier but they were also intimidated by his dark aura.

Xavier didn’t pay any attention to the people who murmured around him, all his focus was on Selene who was staring at him with shock evident in her expression.

"Xavier, what are you doing here?" Selene asked as soon as he stopped right in front of her.

Liam stared at Xavier, immediately recognizing the business tycoon who was the CEO of the biggest company in Radiantia and beyond their borders.

"I wanted to bring you lunch," Xavier said, handing Selene the white bag in his hand which contained food.

Selene sighed, taking the bag from his hand. She was speechless, not knowing if she should be surprised that Xavier brought her lunch on the set or be glad he did. But either way, he was bringing unwanted attention to her and she was sure her colleagues were wondering what kind of relationship she shared with the Wallace family.

First, it was Kace Wallace, who followed her to the set every day. And now, it was Xavier who was bringing her lunch. She could already imagine what they were starting to think.

"And who is your friend?" Xavier questioned, glaring down at Liam who suddenly felt as if he was in danger.

"He's my colleague," Selene replied.

Xavier sized Liam but didn't say anything.

"His name is Liam," Selene added, her eyebrows furrowed, wondering why Xavier was glaring at Liam in such a way.

Liam stretched out his hand for a friendly handshake, but Xavier left him hanging for a while before he shook his hand tightly, glaring at him with a warning Liam immediately understood even though Xavier didn't say a word.

Selene suddenly felt like she was caught cheating by her husband. Both she and Xavier never really lived life like a married couple, so the situation she was in was new.

Kace sighted Xavier and tapped him on the shoulder.

"So this was why you were asking me for the location of the shoot," said Kace and Selene gave him a look.

Kace could feel the tension surrounding them so he pulled Xavier to a private place to talk with him.

"I don't like that Liam guy," Xavier immediately blurted out as soon as Kace took him to a private corner.

“What do you mean?” Kace questioned with furrowed eyebrows.

“I saw the way he was looking at Selene earlier, and I don’t like it. I don’t want her to be around such a guy,” Xavier responded, glaring at Liam who had resumed his talk with Selene. He noticed them exchanging numbers and he couldn’t help but grit his teeth in anger.

“Will you chill? You said you don’t love Selene right? Then why are you bothered with who she becomes friends with?” Kace asked, hands on his waist as he waited for Xavier to answer his question.

Xavier glared at Kace, remembering he wasn’t supposed to feel the way he was feeling towards Selene.

“Or perhaps, you love Selene, don’t you?” Kace added.

“I don’t love her,” Xavier immediately objected. “I’m just worried for her. She shouldn’t be trusting people, especially after everything she went through,” he added.

“Selene didn’t say she was trusting him. And besides, Liam hasn’t made any kind of move towards Selene since she started the movie. I can assure you of that. But I will tell you this, Xavier. If you love Selene, you’d better tell her immediately else what you are internally scared of will come to pass,” he teased, patting Xavier on the shoulder one more time.

Xavier frowned. “Just keep an eye on him, I’m leaving,” Xavier said, intending to leave. He would have stayed longer but he had to get back to his work.

“Why did you even come here in the first place?” Kace asked.

“I came to bring her lunch,” he replied, already departing.

Kace sighed. He already knows that Xavier was lying but he didn’t bother to ask him any more questions.

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Michelle witnessed everything that had occurred. Without wasting any time, she dashed after Xavier.

“Xavier,” she called. “What kind of relationship do you share with Selene?” She asked, her fist clenched by her side. “You just met her and you are bringing her food at the set?”

“And when did we get close enough for you to start questioning me about my personal life?” Xavier questioned coldly. “Because the last time I checked, Michelle, we barely knew each other,” he added.

Michelle felt hurt by his words because it was indeed the truth. She didn’t know much about Xavier or anything about his personal life. She just met him for the first time and immediately fell in love with him.

Tears brimmed in her eyes.

“Please tell me you don’t love Selene,” she pleaded.

Xavier stared at Michelle, clearly annoyed with her request.

‘Is she on drugs?’ He wondered.

“You know I love you so much, right Xavier? It would break my heart if you were in love with Selene. I mean, you just met her,” she added, her tears already streaming down her face.

Xavier stared down at her.

“Like is said earlier, you have no right to ask me questions about my personal life? Don’t you feel disgusted by this question when you are a married woman?” He questioned, eyes narrowed at her.

Michelle went into a trance while Xavier entered his car and zoomed away.

‘She has finally succeeded in warming up his bed. I won’t let this pass. Selene was the one who first stole from me and I will make her pay for it. She will have to pay,’ Michelle said to herself.

Even though Xavier didn’t answer any of her questions, it meant he was indeed in love with Selene.

If only she knew the latter didn’t know about that either.

C 44

Bulldozer Boots

A few days passed and Xavier continued to come to the set, including when they had to leave the huge castle to shoot in the forest at night. Every day, he would always come over to see Selene act. He was given automatic permission to watch the acting since he

was a huge sponsor of the movie. He continuously brought Selene food, and whenever he wasn't able to make it, he would send a food truck for her and her colleagues.

Selene was baffled when she saw the food truck. She had told him several times to not bring her food but he never listened to her. Sometimes, if he thought that wasn't enough, he would bring flowers to her.

Selene was almost convinced that he was in love with her but immediately washed away that thought from her mind when she remembered that he was Xavier Wallace.

"Xavier is never going to give up is he?" Kace mumbled under his breath when he saw another food truck at the set.

That was the second food truck after almost two weeks.

"What is he thinking?" Selene mumbled as well.

She didn't want to accept how her heart warmed whenever he sent her food. Even though he was busy at work, he would never forget to bring her food for the past week and a half.

'Could it be—' Selene wondered.

Selene's colleagues were always happy when they saw the food truck because it was sent by the great Xavier Wallace. Even some actresses who were on a diet would stop their diet just so that they would have a taste of the food he sent.

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"Please, excuse me," Kace called out to a lady who had white long hair that was tied into a ponytail. "You are Selene's makeup artist, right? I would like to talk to you please," he added.

Allison turned to glare at the person who was calling her. Kace was baffled by her glare but he continued.

"Can I speak to you privately please?" He requested.

Allison glanced around before she nodded. A scene was still going on and she wasn't needed until she heard the director saying CUT through his speaker.

Both she and Kace went outside where there were little to no people who were around to hear their conversation.

“So what do you want to talk about?” Allison immediately questioned when they stopped walking, her blue eyes waiting impatiently for him to speak while a slight hint of irritation was plastered on her expression.

Once again, Kace was baffled by her expression.

She looked like he had angered her or something because that was not the same way she looked or spoke to Selene.

He had noticed her a few times since her white hair stood out the most in the crowd filled with actors and crew.

“I want to request that you thoroughly check the things that Selene uses while she’s still in the set?” He said which earned him a much deeper frown from her.

‘Did I offend her or something?’ Kace wondered.

“Why do I need to do that?” Allison asked.

Kace sighed. “It’s a long story but there might be someone out there who might hurt Selene if care isn’t taken,” he responded which ended up confusing Allison.

“Who’s out to get her? Shouldn’t we inform Director Jeunes about this if it’s that serious?” She asked but Kace shook his head.

“We can’t.”

He didn’t have an idea of how to tell her that Michelle was the one who was going to try to hurt Selene.

Xavier had informed him of what he told Michelle two weeks ago and he had been waiting for her to do something stupid. The other day, Selene had a wardrobe malfunction but it was handled immediately by Natalie.

It might have looked like a small issue but he was suspicious that Michelle was behind the wardrobe malfunction. Plus, Michelle has been too quiet lately. She continued to hang out with Selene but maintained a certain distance which got him confused because she should be doing everything in her power to try to get Selene fired from the movie.

“What do you mean by we can’t?” Allison asked him, her blue eyes holding confusion in them.

Kace stared into her eyes before he looked away.

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“Please, can you do what I asked of you? You can also inform your friend, the stylist in charge of Selene’s clothes about what I told you. Please, it’s very important. The person hasn’t made any move yet and I don’t know when they will strike,” said Kace. He wouldn’t want to get a makeup artist involved in the drama that Michelle was going to create soon in the future.

Allison immediately understood. She nodded her head before turning to leave, but Kace stopped her.

“If I may ask, did I offend you in any way?” He asked.

Allison halted her steps and turned to look at Kace, shooting an eyebrow.

“Don’t you remember how you stepped on my foot without even apologizing?” She questioned him. Her question felt like lightning he’d never expected. “I understand that you may be a spoiled brat born from a rich family but I’m sure you wouldn’t lose an arm if you say sorry for what you did.”

Kace stared at her with mouth wide open.

“Eh?” That was the only sound that could come out of his mouth.

Allison gritted her teeth in annoyance before she retreated but Kace grabbed her arm to stop her.

When he realized what he did, he immediately apologized, “I’m sorry, I didn’t mean to do that but I’m quite confused. When did I step on your foot?”

‘He can’t even remember.’

“It was when Ms. Selene broke her ankle two weeks ago. When you rushed towards her with your bulldozer you call boots, you stepped on me and my sandals got spoiled,” she reminded.

“Eh? Bulldozer?” Kace was speechless as he stared at her as she called his black leather boots bulldozers.

C 45

He’s Thirty Three!!

“Eh? Bulldozer?” Kace was speechless as he stared at her and called his black leather boots bulldozers.

"Of course they are bulldozers, that's the perfect name to call them. And after you stepped on me, you didn't even apologize to me even till now," Allison continued.

"Eh?"

Allison turned even more annoyed with Kace not saying anything except eh so she turned to leave but he stopped her again.

"I'm sorry for stepping on your feet and spoiling your sandals," Kace apologized.

Allison's eyes narrowed at Kace, finding his apology a little suspicious.

She had thought he was going to argue with her but he gave in quite easily, surprising her.

"I had no idea I stepped on your sandals. If I had known, I would have apologized to you. I'm sorry again, miss," Kace added.

Allison sighed, her eyes softening as she smiled at him. "It's a good thing you are not a spoiled brat as I thought you were, and I'm sorry for calling you one too," she said.

"Let me make it up to you by buying you sandals," Kace offered but Allison immediately objected to the idea.

She found it weird and inappropriate if he bought her sandals just to mend a mistake he had already apologized for.

"I don't think there's a need for that. Your apology is more than enough," she replied, her smile widening even more on her lips which had Kace become amazed by it.

He immediately shook his head as if there was a bee flying in circles around it.

"Alright, if you say so."

More days passed with Xavier sending a food truck to the set to serve food to Selene.

Michelle bore witness to everything just like the other colleagues and her jealousy was about to fire bullets at Selene if they could.

"Selene is so lucky, she had Xavier Wallace bring her lunch to the set every day for almost a month now. Are they dating?" One of the actresses asked another who was seated beside her as she scooped a spoon filled with ice cream and ate it.

"Isn't it obvious? I mean he always brought food trucks to the set every single day. And when he's able to make it here himself, he will bring flowers along," the other one replied.

"But how do you think they met? I mean, Selene is a newbie actress who hasn't gained much popularity yet but she has already caught a big fish like Xavier Wallace."

"Didn't you see her at the birthday party of old Wallace? She was there. That was where I first saw her and perhaps, that was where they met," said another.

"Oh really? Wow, she's so lucky."

"I bet she warmed his bed," said one who had just taken a seat beside the two who were chatting among themselves.

"I don't think so."

The bitter one chuckled slightly. "Isn't it obvious? A newbie actress debuted barely a month ago and she already had Xavier Wallace sending food for her everyday. She's warming his bed for him every night."

The two actresses who were first discussing earlier glanced at each other before shrugging their shoulders nonchalantly. They didn't know exactly the kind of relationship they shared since Xavier had not revealed anything about their relationship. And when they tried getting the truth out of Selene, she simply said they were just friends.

Unbeknownst to them, Michelle had been listening to their conversation from start to finish. An evil smirk appeared on her lips, a nasty idea being born in her mind.

"Mia," Michelle called her assistant. "I have something I want you to do for me."

Michelle brought out her phone and took a picture of Selene who was eating an ice cream.

"I'm sending you this picture and I want you to release something when it's nighttime with a different account," she ordered.

Mia who was behind her nodded, with a similar evil smirk on her lips, already having an idea of what Michelle was going to instruct her to do.

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Back where Selene and Kace were seated, Selene scooped a spoon of her ice cream as her thoughts wandered.

"Why do you think Xavier is doing this?" She suddenly asked, shocking Kace who thought she already caught the hint Xavier was trying to pass to her.

'Are their EQs equally low?' Kace couldn't help but wonder.

"I mean, you know your brother way better than I do, so why do you think he's acting this way?" Selene added, staring at Kace for an answer.

Kace had always been beside her and he was already turning into her bestie, since they would talk about random things and make each other laugh until she was entirely comfortable around Kace. She believed she could share her thoughts with him.

She also noticed how different he was from his other two brothers. While Richard was the deadbeat and Xavier was the workaholic and always being the most serious one, Kace was completely different. She didn't know exactly what he did for a living but his jovial personality made her to be able to associate with people even more.

"It's either my brother is doing this because he loves you or because he hates you," he blurted out whatever came to his mind without minding.

"Huh?! What's that supposed to mean?" She questioned, her eyebrows furrowed in confusion. "I asked you a simple question and you replied with such a riddle."

Kace resisted the urge to facepalm his forehead at the moment.

He simply sighed.

"You asked me a question and I've replied to you, Selene. You can go ahead and pick whichever answer you want from the options I've given to you."

Selene frowned, before sighing as well.

"By the way, how old is Xavier?" She suddenly asked.

"He's thirty-three," Kace replied.

The ice cream cup that was in Selene's hands dropped.

"He's thirty-three? He's nearly a decade older than me. He's nine years older than me," she nearly screamed.

"Will you calm down? It's just a small age gap."

"He's nine years older than me," she repeated, as if in a trance.

A Week Hiatus

Selene groaned in annoyance when she heard the ringtone of her phone. She searched for it and placed it on her ear without looking at the caller.

“Selene Jones, I’m sorry for calling you so early in the morning, but have you seen the tweet?” She heard the caller ask.

Selene immediately recognized that voice. She looked at the caller and gasped.

Director Jeunes!

“No sir, is there a problem?” She asked him. From the tone of his voice, it was obvious something was wrong.

“A rumor has spread about you sleeping with...” director Jeunes paused, unable to complete his sentence. It was an inappropriate topic so he said, “We will be going on a one-week hiatus until we find who released those tweets. Take care Selene,” and he hung up on the call without letting her reply.

Selene stared at her phone for a little while, her thoughts wandering about with confusion etched on her face. “What rumor?” She mumbled.

Her thumb hovered over the screen of her phone, contemplating if she should search for the rumor or not since she was having a bad feeling about it. Sighing, she started searching for any kind of rumor until she saw a pic of her eating an ice cream. She frowned slightly, recognizing the outfit. It was the clothes she wore the previous day.

She read the caption that was placed above the picture.

Noob Actress Warms The Bed Of Both The Wallace Brothers And The Director So That She Can Get A Role For The Movie

Selene read the caption a few more times before she laughed uncontrollably.

When she was finally able to control her laughter, Selene rushed down towards the comment section before she laughed out again.

“Why are some people so stupid?” She wondered out loud.

“She slept with the two Wallace brothers? So shameless!”

“I was shocked that a noob like her got the lead role while Michelle didn’t when she also auditioned for it. Now I know why she got it, she slept with the director.”

“She looks so pretty and modest but seeking benefits from men by warming their beds is just disgusting.”

Selene read the comments and continued to snicker. "People are really funny," she said to herself before sighing. "So this is how Michelle plans on ruining my career, by spreading fake rumors about me."

When Selene was done scrolling through her phone, she kept it aside and lay flat on the bed as she stared at the ceiling of the room.

"Now the movie is put on hold because of this. That's good, it gives me time to focus on Robert Harrison."

Selene got ready and headed downstairs for breakfast. She had to peel to be sure Xavier wasn't around. When she saw the dining table empty, she sighed in relief.

She didn't find the maid around and the dining table was squeaky clean with no plate of food in sight. She frowned and headed inside the kitchen where she found Xavier, with an apron tied around his narrow waist.

He was wearing a normal shirt that exposed his tattoos entirely. Selene had always known he had tattoos since the ink on his hand peeked out from his long suits and sweaters.

The second time she saw it was when she was helping him with the injury on his shoulder but she didn't focus on it much so that she wouldn't be too distracted from what she was doing.

Seeing the tattoos so up close, she drooled without realizing it. When she finally realized what she was doing, she turned around quietly to escape.

"Good morning," Xavier greeted, making her halt.

Selene gulped down her saliva before she replied, "Good morning."

She stared into the bowl Xavier was mixing something in then the pans.

'He's making pancakes?'

"Where are the maids?" She asked, curious why Xavier was all alone in the huge kitchen making pancakes when he could just have the maids do it for him.

"I gave them a holiday," he replied, flipping the pancakes.

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Selene didn't know how to respond so she hummed before trying to leave again.

"Because I want to spend some time with you," he blurted out.

He stopped mixing the ingredients of the pancakes so that he could focus more on her reaction.

On the other hand, Selene was speechless.

Silence reigned in the kitchen, none of them making a sound. Selene turned to look at him before a smile graced her lips.

"You are not going to work today?" She asked him.

Xavier stared at her for a few seconds, understanding what she did there.

'She changed the subject,' he thought.

"I'm not going to work today," he replied.

"I see... a rumor was released and the director has put the movie on one week of hiatus," she informed and Xavier nodded.

"I know, I was the one who told him to do so," he responded. Selene was baffled but Xavier continued. "I've already contacted orders for the tweet to be taken down. I'm sure you already have an idea who was the one that tweeted that."

"Ahh... thank you and I'm sorry you got involved in this. It was all Michelle's doing I'm sure of it."

Xavier flipped another pancake and settled it aside. The aroma in the kitchen was salivating and Selene was trying her best not to jump on those fluffy-looking banana pancakes that Xavier was making.

"I've sent her father a warning about what she has done," Xavier replied.

Selene hummed again.

Standing in the kitchen while Xavier made breakfast all by himself made her feel awkward, so she decided to help.

"Let me assist you," she offered.

Xavier's mouth twitched, knowing she couldn't cook but he nodded nevertheless.

"Has Michelle contacted you today?" Xavier asked.

Selene shook her head.

As if on cue, Selene felt her phone vibrate from inside her pocket. She wiped her hands clean and picked it up.

“Speak of the devil,” she mumbled when she saw Michelle’s name written as the caller.

C 47

Who Is Jeffery Clark?

Selene finished her phone call with Michelle and threw the phone away. “Can’t she hear her voice? Does she think I’m deaf or something?” Selene wondered out loud. As always, Michelle tried to sound like the victim as she pacified Selene about the rumor she spread.

She went back to the kitchen to find Xavier already through with making the pancakes. She helped him bring it to the table.

They took a seat, ready to eat.

“I want to go to the Harrison company building today,” she suddenly said. Xavier gave her a questioning look so she continued. “I want to search his office for the already signed property papers.”

“How about I have someone to do that? It’s too dangerous for you if you walk into the Harrison company,” said Xavier.

Selene scratched her head a little, contemplating what Xavier had said. It was indeed dangerous for her to walk in there. What was she going to say she wanted from him? Even though she had passed their test and in their eyes, she wasn’t Ana, she would still be going into the lion’s den.

“I will disguise myself. I have gone into his office a few times and I know where he keeps his important documents,” Selene replied. “I will try to be as fast as I can. Earlier, Michelle said she and her father would be heading out somewhere, which means he’s not at the office.”

Xavier contemplated for a while. It was obvious Selene wanted to do everything by herself.

He nodded his head. He could see the eagerness in her eyes and he wasn’t going to discourage her.

“Alright, I will come with,” he replied which earned him a frown from Selene. “I will be in the car but I will have one of my bodyguards follow you in,” he added.

**

In the van, Selene stared at herself in the mirror. She wore a janitor's uniform which Kace was able to bring for her from the company.

She had asked him how he was able to get it and he lied that one of the janitors was kind enough to lend it to him.

Meanwhile, Kace clenched the fist he used in knocking out the janitor. He wasn't able to find a female janitor soon and only grabbed the male one, so Selene was dressed in a male janitor's uniform. A big mole on her left cheek while she wore a short man wig. She did her makeup so that she could look like a man

Spectacles hung on the bridges of her nose with brown eye lenses to cover the real colors of her eyes. A fake beard plastered on her chin which she loathed at the moment since it made her chin itch. She checked the picture of the man Kace had borrowed the janitor uniform, feeling a sense of satisfaction when she saw she looked like him.

She wore the extremely tiny earpiece in her ear so that she could communicate with them if she needed to.

"How do I look?" She asked.

"You look like you need food," Kace teased but immediately regretted it when he got a smack from Xavier.

"Don't mind him, you look like a real man," said Xavier.

"A real skinny one," Kace teased again after recovering from Xavier's head smack but immediately regretted it when he saw their glares directed towards him.

"Real funny," Selene mumbled, checking herself out in the mirror again. "I'm going in," she said, getting down from the van while the man whom Xavier had assigned to keep a watch out followed behind her at a good distance.

The security guards didn't bother to stop her since she was wearing the company's janitor uniform. Selene's directly went to the janitor section to get some cleaning materials so that her wandering about wouldn't be questioned.

Luckily for her, she didn't find the other janitors around who would ask her questions. So, she quickly grabbed what she needed and dashed away, heading towards the lift, and went to her father's office.

The elevator opened and Selene saw the rows of secretaries' desks that lined up with a few people seated and working. She checked the time, then realized it was already lunch break and some of them had gone out for lunch.

'This is just perfect,' she thought to herself before heading inside.

Selene walked inside without being stopped by any of the secretaries.

'Seems like this good janitor has a neutral relationship with these people,' she thought.

As soon as she was in front of the door, she knocked, hoping that Robert had not returned yet. When she didn't hear any answer from inside, she opened the door and walked in. The office was indeed empty.

Selene glanced around the huge office, her supposed office. She was supposed to be the one sitting in the chair of the CEO but her father had snatched everything from her.

"Are you in?" She heard Xavier's voice through the earpiece.

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"I'm in," she replied.

"Be careful," he reminded.

Selene hummed, and dropped the cleaning materials she had brought along with her before she started her search. She walked towards the shelf where he always kept his important documents but didn't find anything.

Hissing in annoyance, she went to his desk and searched the files that were piled there. There was a high chance the file wouldn't be on the desk but she hoped she could find it easily.

As she searched, she made sure she arranged everything and didn't leave anything out of place.

But the result was the same.

"Shit!" She cursed under her breath.

She checked the drawers again in case she had missed something. When she was about to close the drawer, she noticed a document that had Property Papers written on it. She immediately picked it up when she heard, "Selene, you need to get out of there." Xavier's urgent voice came through the earpiece again.

"What?"

"Robert is on his way there, you need to get out of there," Xavier repeated.

Selene's heart raced. She glanced between the door and the door before she opened the document.

A frown settled on her face when she saw the name written on the property papers. It was Jeffery Clark.

"Who is Jeffery Clark?"

C 48

Let's Watch A Movie

A frown settled on her face when she saw the name written on the property papers. It was Jeffery Clark.

"Who is Jeffery Clark?" She asked.

"Selene!" She heard Xavier's name over the earpiece again, making her jolt. Selene immediately closed the document and kept it back where she saw it since it wasn't the file she was looking for.

"I'm getting out," she responded, striding towards the cleaning materials and picking them up before she left.

The secretaries didn't bother to stop her just like when she went in.

She saw the private elevator for the CEO only open and Robert walked out while two bulky men followed behind him.

Immediately, Selene lowered her head as they passed each other. Robert glanced at the janitor whose head was lowered but didn't pay any attention to him when his phone suddenly vibrated.

Both Selene and Xavier's bodyguard stepped out of the building and entered the van.

"Did you find anything?" Kace asked as soon as she entered

Selene took off her spectacles, fake mole, and the wig.

"I didn't see the property papers," she said, disappointment evident in her voice.

"This only means that the property papers are at the Harrison mansion," Kace concluded. "You are going to have to go there again," he added.

Selene cleaned off her makeup before she replied, "I guess so. When I tried looking into his study room, he had locked it. I can only hope he doesn't lock it again when I'm able to convince Michelle we hang out at the Harrison mansion instead."

Selene went to the building with high hopes that she would find the property papers she had signed. She needed those papers to prove in court or to a lawyer that she had signed her property away and wasn't trying to steal someone's property. The weight of disappointment pressed on her shoulders but she didn't want to give up yet.

"Are you alright? Were you hurt somewhere?" She heard Xavier ask.

She stared at him for a few seconds before looking away, shaking her head.

"I'm fine."

Kace glanced between Xavier and Selene before he said, "Ito, let's have a drink shall we?"

Ito, the man who had followed Selene inside the company nodded his head. "Sure, why not?" He understood that Kace wanted to give his boss and the unknown woman some privacy so he readily agreed.

Kace and Ito stepped down from the van. "The both of you can go right ahead. I will come later," said Kace.

"Don't bother, I need you to go to the office and check if any bad flowers are growing there," Xavier ordered.

Kace read between the lines in the message and sighed heavily.

Go to the hideout and track down more kidnappers.

"More work," Kace mumbled under his breath before he closed the door to the van.

It was only Selene and Xavier who were in the van now.

"I suddenly remember when my dad took both me and Michelle to the beach to have some fun. It was summer so everywhere was hot," she said, looking at the people who were walking on the street. "Neither Michelle nor I could swim very well so we weren't allowed to go deep into the beach. But Michelle wanted to try if she could swim that far. I followed her because I didn't want anything bad to happen to her. At the end of the day, we ended up drowning," she added.

Tears pooled in her eyes, but she immediately wiped them before they would drop.

"Michelle and I screamed for help. Michelle was a few feet behind me and I was the closest to the shore but I couldn't swim back before my legs couldn't touch the ground. We both screamed for help and our parents came rushing. They rushed past me to help Michelle out of the water. It was the lifeguard who saved me that day. Not once did they ask if I was alright, the only one they cared about was Michelle. She was their favored

daughter. Instead of asking if I was alright, they reprimanded me for letting Michelle go that far into the water.

The hot tears she was trying to hold back streamed down her face.

"I'm sorry," she suddenly apologized. "I know this is not important. My chest felt tight for a moment."

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Xavier placed his on hers, wiped her tears, and stroked her cheeks.

"You don't need to apologize for anything. I'm glad you shared this with me," he said.

'Now I know how I will kill Robert Harrison after Selene is through with him,' he thought to himself.

"Let's go out?" He suddenly suggested.

"What?"

Xavier thought he might have said the wrong thing so he looked away, avoiding eye contact.

"Let's go out?" He repeated, ready for her rejection.

Selene blinked at him.

"Or is there something fun you might want to do? Maybe watch a movie or go somewhere?"

"Let's watch a movie at your house" she blurted out. "Going out now would be dangerous since I have some haters now due to the rumor," she added.

Selene was lucky she didn't have any official account where haters could barge into her DM and start threatening her.

Xavier smiled at her.

'If only she knew I've already sued those people talking bad about her,' he thought to himself, ignited the engines of the van, and drove towards the mansion.

Xavier got some popcorn ready while Selene went upstairs to change.

Upstairs, Selene was nervous and also excited about the fact she was going to be spending some time with Xavier.

She changed into comfortable clothes which consisted of baggy shirts and baggy pants. She checked herself out in the mirror to be sure there weren't any black spots on her face.

"I think this is good enough," she said as she turned around in the mirror. When she realized what she was doing, she paused.

"This isn't right, I've gone mad," she squealed.

C 49

Good Entertainment

The week rushed by fast and the hiatus was over. Selene had to go back to work. Throughout the week, she had tried texting Michelle for a hangout but the latter always objected, claiming to be busy with a new contract she signed with a modeling company, Klerene.

Xavier went to work a few days and would always come back early. They would watch movies together and he offered to teach her how to make a few dishes, which she failed at terribly.

Having to spend more than ten hours at the set and having to go home late at night made her miss him and want to have him by her side all the time. She wondered if Xavier was also feeling the same.

He continued to bring her meals at the set.

Selene sighed, playing with her fingers when she saw a shadow sitting beside her. She looked at the person and found Liam.

"Where's your friend, Kace?" He asked, opening a bottle of chilled water before handing it over to her.

Selene sighed heavily, "He had somewhere to go," she replied.

Kace was not around and he already told her beforehand. Not having him by her side got her bored quickly.

Her relationship with Liam had gotten good, the both of them would text each other a few times but they spoke most of the time at the set and Liam had taken it upon himself to cheer her up.

"I see."

Selene drank from the bottled water, letting the chilled liquid soothe her dry throat. Standing under the sun, acting with the heavy dresses tired her out.

Some of the actresses passed them by, glaring at Selene before they whispered amongst themselves.

“Seems like the director and the two Wallace brothers didn’t satisfy her enough. Now, she’s after Liam. Can’t she at least have some shame?”

“I don’t think shame is in her vocabulary,” the other whispered back.

Selene heard them loud and clear. Even though the rumor had been clarified, some of her jealous colleagues still wouldn’t let her be. Selene had never bothered to talk back at them, but it seemed they had taken her for granted.

“Don’t listen to what they are saying,” said Liam.

Selene sighed, finally finding some source of entertainment. She had been bored since she came to the set. Michelle hadn’t done anything stupid yet and now she had seen some scapegoats, she wasn’t going to let them go scot-free.

“Excuse me, if you have something to say about me, how about you say it to my face?” Selene asked, standing up from her seat and walking to stand in front of them.

The two B-list actresses stared at each other before they laughed out loud.

“Are you talking to us?” One of them asked Selene, looking around, trying to see if possibly Selene was talking to someone else.

“Weren’t you talking about me earlier?” Selene questioned, keeping her voice low so that she wouldn’t attract much attention, but she doubted that was possible. “Come on, repeat what you said, Miranda!”

Miranda was a blonde-haired black-eyed girl crush who was a singer, actor, and model all at the same time. Many scandals about her sleeping with rich politicians were the talk on social media every time. She wears skimpy clothes to come to the set and the only time she got to wear decent clothes was when she had to change into the costumes.

She wasn’t exactly from a wealthy family, but her family didn’t have a good background, just like her. She had a brother who was in jail and a younger sister who was following in her footsteps.

“You are just a newbie who climbed her way to the top by sleeping with rich men every day. Who knows, it must be why you decided to be part of this movie. So that you can catch the attraction of the handsome men here,” said Miranda raising her voice slightly

higher so that people can come watch as she disgraces Selene while pouting as if pitting her.

"You mean like how you wear your rags you call clothes in here but still fail in seducing anyone? What a shame," Selene backfired.

Miranda was immediately hurt by Selene's comment.

The other actress who was with Miranda pulled her friend as if to protect her as she glared at Selene.

She was Edna, another famous B-list celebrity with brown hair and black eyes who came from a rich family. She was a spoiled brat who enjoyed everyone dancing to her tunes and she loved degrading people just because she was born rich.

Edna had caused a few commotions at the set and it was with the crew. The director always leaves her off with a warning but it was obvious his patience with her was wearing off.

There had been a few scandals about her being a drug dealer. With the way she behaved like a mad woman, many people concluded she was under drugs since no person in their normal state of mind would act in such a way.

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"Who do you think you are to talk to my friend like that?" She questioned Selene. "Just because you are in the same movie with us, that does not mean you can talk to us however you like. We are still your seniors."

"So what do you expect me to do? Go down and lick your foot with my tongue? I think I will pass," Selene waved her hands away as if waving an annoying fly away. "You know, instead of you two birds that flock together minding my own business, how about you mind yours instead? I mean you have a lot more on your plate than I do," she added, reminding them of their scandals.

The two friends glanced at each other with gritted teeth. Selene had always portrayed herself as a quiet and reserved person, but never in their wildest thoughts did they think she had such a sharp tongue.

C 50

Stalked By Her Worst Nightmare

"What happened?" Selene questioned when they kept on looking at her with wide eyes. "Did the cats catch your tongues?"

"You only have the mouth to talk like this because you have the Wallace brothers by your side," Miranda spat out of jealousy.

Since she started seeing Xavier at the set, bringing Selene food a few times, she had begun wearing even skimpier dresses, trying to catch his attention, but Xavier only had eyes on Selene which annoyed her because she believed Selene wasn't even half as good-looking as her.

Selene smiled at Miranda's words.

"Why? Are you jealous? Are the politicians whose beds you are warming not satisfying you enough?" She asked

Selene didn't bother to hold back since the two didn't hold back while they were talking to her.

She could hear murmurs from around them, but she didn't care if it was a good or a bad comment. People were allowed to think what they wanted to think about her.

On the other hand, both Miranda and Edna were greatly offended by the words Selene spewed in them. They had thought she was an easy one to bully since she was always reserved and hung around Kace. But now, they didn't even know how they were going to respond to her remarks.

"I will tell director Jeunes how you are mistreating us and have you fired from this movie. My family is a huge sponsor of this movie and I'm sure he will listen to what I say," Edna threatened with an evil grin on her lips. Miranda also smirked, raising her chin in pride.

"No one is stopping you, go ahead."

Edna's ego was immediately hurt again. She clenched her fist in anger. She had been ready for Selene to bow down and immediately start pleading but instead, she got the opposite reaction.

"You are going to get it, Selene. I won't forget what you did here today," Edna threatened before she pulled Miranda with her and they both walked away.

Selene rolled their eyes before she went back to where she was sitting earlier.

Liam stared at her as she grabbed her bottled water and sipped from it, quenching her dry throat.

"What are you looking at me for?" Selene asked him.

"I never knew you had such a savage side in you," said Liam.

"Well, what can I say? Sometimes you just need to remind people you are not as weak as they already presumed you to be," she mumbled, making contact with Michelle for a second before the latter looked away.

"You might have to be careful around them though, I don't think that threat was for nothing," said Liam, worry etched on his face.

Martha came over, sitting beside them as they decided to forget about what had happened.

When their break had finished, they continued their scenes. A scene needed to be shot at night so everyone was completely exhausted when they finished.

Xavier had told her he would be the one to pick her up. When she texted him, he replied he was on his way. A smile crept on Selene's face when she read his text.

"Aren't you going home yet?" Liam asked her, peeking at her phone's screen but didn't get the chance to see whom she was texting because she quickly brought the phone to her chest.

"Someone is coming to pick me up," she replied.

"Should I wait?" He offered but Selene shook her head vehemently. Liam wished her goodnight before he got into his car and left. Most of the crews were still around, arranging the cameras and setting things aside.

Selene decided to stroll out of the set.

Selene walked out of the gates of the set, she was on the streets. The moonlight cascaded a soft glow and the night breeze became chilly.

It was close to midnight. She hadn't expected them to stay so late.

Selene sighed, rubbing her hands together to make them warm before she planted it on her face. She was wearing a sleeveless shirt with a thin jacket that couldn't do anything to save her from the chilly night.

Selene walked a few distance into the street when she realized she had walked quite far from the set.

She sighed again, continuing her journey when she heard a sound from behind her.

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Instinctively, her head turned to the source of the sound but she didn't see anything.

The street lights weren't so good so she had to fetch her cellphone and turn on the light before pointing it back at the direction the sound came from. She met with the same result, nothing.

Selene turned off her flashlight and shrugged.

She took a few more steps before she heard another step. The steps weren't hers, they were coming from behind her.

Selene became cautious.

Without having to look back, she immediately started tapping on the wristwatch Kace gave her months ago when she was going to the Harrison family for the first time after she made an appearance with a different identity.

Inside his car, Xavier got a phone call from the phone Kace gave to him, in case Selene got into trouble and needed to tap on the wristwatch.

His heart jumped, fear gripping him as he stepped on the gas.

Selene wanted to ignore the sound of the footsteps that were following behind her but it was getting clearer as the unknown person neared her.

Taking a deep breath, she decided to turn and have a look at the person who was following her in the middle of the night.

Her eyes went wide in shock when they landed on the person stalking her.

"Richard," she called, fear evident in her face as her eyes trembled.

"Oh, hi Selene! I saw that you were all by yourself and wanted to help you get home safely. You know it wouldn't be nice for a good-looking lady like you to be wandering alone at night? What if something bad happened to you?" He asked her, his eyes sizing her up as a grin stretched on his lips.