

My Ex-Wife's Shocking Secrets By Bernice Delia Chapter 31

Chapter 31' Sebastian Is Jealous

"All done."

Louis gently patted Madeline on the shoulder and took the towel away.

The farce was almost over.

Madeline got up and saw Edwin looking at her in a simpering manner.

Madeline was amused and thought, "Huh, he's still infatuated with me? He probably has no idea that everyone has seen what he did on the big screen."

Madeline smiled at Edwin and said, "You did well today. I'm quite happy with your performance. By the way, don't forget to settle the bill at the counter."

Edwin frowned. This was different from that what he had imagined.

"Maddie, can I be your boyfriend now?"

Edwin's tone was humble to the core.

Madeline was stunned for a moment, and she roared with reckless laughter.

"Mr. Campbell, you over-think. When did I ever promise to be your girlfriend? A sensible person doesn't make the same mistake twice. I might not be perfect but that doesn't mean I would want someone's secondhand."

She didn't say it with Edwin in mind because he wasn't worth her time at all.

Her words were actually meant for Sebastian.

Madeline had known all along that Sebastian was there too. They were seated just a table apart, so it was difficult not to notice him.

"Maddie, you..." Edwin's eyes widened in astonishment.

"Don't call me that. You'll make my boyfriend unhappy." Madeline beamed a smile at Louis.

Louis held Madeline's arm naturally and arrogantly said, "You should take a good look in the mirror, Edwin. Then you'll know you're not a good match for Maddie at all."

Louis then slapped Edwin's face with a bundle of banknotes. "Take this money and go away as far as possible. Don't ever show your face to Leine again or else..." Louis curled his lips and blinked innocently. "I'll make sure you'll regret you were ever born."

Edwin was completely stunned by Louis' words.

Madeline scoffed. "Where did Louis learn to speak like that? Oh well, looks like everyone bought the story of him being my boyfriend and my reputation that was ruined at school has almost been restored."

"Let's go," said Madeline indifferently.

She was exhausted after all that happened.

All she wanted was to go home and rest.

"Your ex-husband was in the lobby the whole time." Louis tilted his head and glanced at Madeline, who was pretending to be asleep in the passenger seat.

"I know." Madeline didn't go through the usual wave of emotions whenever she heard that word

anymore.

"It's a small world after all. Especially when it comes to bumping into your enemies."

Louis sighed.

Madeline pursed her lips and cocked her head to look outside the window.

The lobby was so well-lit when she was there that she didn't realize it was already dark outside.

"How are you going to deal with that cousin of yours? Won't her family harass you if you go to the Jennings residence tonight?"

Louis was being thoughtful, particularly when it came to Madeline..

“They won’t dare.” Madeline smiled tauntingly. “It’s not for them to decide what will happen to the Jennings estate.”

“Maddie.” Louis suddenly slowed down the car and said in a softer tone, “You don’t need to force yourself to live there. It’s not like you’ll be happy living in the Jennings estate with them. I have another house under my name, and if you...”

“That’s enough. My parents left the Jennings estate to me. I must protect it.” Madeline clenched her fists tightly. She felt as if there was a hole in her heart.

Her parents would always be one of her regrets. Not to mention she had indirectly caused their

deaths.

Louis pursed his lips. He respected Madeline’s decision and would do anything to get back.

whatever she wanted.

Madeline’s phone kept vibrating, so she took a look at it.

There were text messages from the beautiful members of the “Mind Our Own Business” group.

Cassandra texted: [Hey gorgeous, I have some tea for you all-Faraday Corporation’s share price crashed again! I nearly pee my pants from laughing too much. Ha-ha!]

Natalie texted: [I could hear you laughing from all the way here! But yeah, this is the most shocking news of the year. I’ve never thought I would ever see Faraday Corporation’s share price plummet like this in my life.]

Yulisa texted: [A certain Mr. Faraday is going to be in trouble.]

Cassandra texted: [Serves him right. He was such a scumbag to Maddie.]

Natalie texted: [Maddie, are you there? You’ve been so quiet lately.]

Then every member of the group started calling for Madeline.

Madeline smiled and sent a money transfer to the group. [I was at a classmate gathering. Can you girls help me spread something?]

Cassandra had a wide social network.

Madeline sent the video of her and Edwin to the group chat.

[Damn! Maddie, you're so domineering!]

[Man, this Edwin guy cracks me up! What a simp!]

Madeline closed the group chat and tapped opened Faraday Corporation's interface.

The company's share price kept falling and was about to stop falling.

Madeline narrowed her eyes and sensed something was wrong.

She knew Sebastian's personality. He wouldn't let his company's share price fall like that.

There was only one other possibility.

Madeline smiled.

"Louis, help me buy 15-thousand-dollar worth of shares in Faraday Corporation."

"Maddie, are you crazy? Why are you buying when everyone is dumping Faraday Corporation's shares? You'll lose a lot of money if you do that." Louis thought Madeline didn't understand how the share market works so he hurriedly explained to her.

"Just do as I say. The Jennings Group needs money now."

Madeline would use this opportunity to make loads of profit.

"Let's see how things pan out. I can always go back to my previous work of trading shares if the Jennings Group is really short in cash," thought Madeline.

Louis shook his head and thought, "Oh well. I'll go along with her since she's determined to do it."

After all, he could always reimburse any money she lost in the share market.

The man sitting in the back seat of the car pursed his thin lips tightly; his expression was gloomy

as hell.

“What is the relationship between Louis and Madeline? Why do the two of them seem like they’re so close to each other? And that Edwin... I didn’t know Madeline has an ex-boyfriend.”

Sebastian rubbed the space between his eyebrows. He was experiencing more and more headaches recently.

“Mr. Faraday, do you want to go to the hospital?” asked Nolan cautiously when he saw Sebastian’s pained expression.

Sebastian closed his eyes and opened them slowly. “Does Edwin work in our company?” he asked

in a hoarse voice.

Nolan was stunned for a moment. It took him a while to recall. “Yes, I heard that he has a good sales record and that he was recently promoted.”

“Good sales record?” Sebastian scoffed.

“Fire him,” ordered Sebastian coldly.

Nolan was confused. Sebastian had never taken a special interest in anyone before so why would he suddenly bring up Edwin?

“Yes, Mr. Faraday.” Nolan could only nod obediently.

Sebastian’s mood became a little lighter after giving the order to get rid of Edwin.

He took out his laptop and put it on his knee to personally conduct an investigation on Louis’ background.

The son of the Coleman family was never rumored to be with anyone.

But Louis was known to always hang out with a certain girl.

Sebastian zoomed in on the picture, and the people in it were Louis and Madeline.

Sebastian exhaled, and his handsome face was filled with gloom again.

“Ah, so they knew each other since ages ago. It wouldn’t be an overstatement to say they were. childhood sweethearts,” thought Sebastian.

The air around Sebastian turned tense when he thought about how intimate Louis and Madeline were with each other just now.

Chapter 32 Deterrence Penology

Before the break of dawn, Madeline was awoken by the sound of a barking dog.

She scowled and turned over in her bed, feeling dissatisfied as the noise downstairs grew louder and more grating by the second. It was an unwelcome disturbance to Madeline’s peace and quiet. Madeline donned her pajamas and stumbled down the stairs lazily.

As she descended, she was greeted by the sight of a massive wolfdog lounging in the center of the living room, with Juliette standing nearby, teasing the animal with gleeful abandon. Madeline shared her mother’s distaste for large animals. They were both gentle women who preferred small pets over big, wild creatures like wolfdogs.

The fact that this particular wolfdog had disturbed Madeline’s sleep only intensified her dislike. “Juliette, are you out of your mind?” Madeline screamed, with her frustration evident.

The wolfdog was untrained, and its teeth were sharp and dangerous. It could easily bite someone.” Suddenly chastised, Juliette lost her good mood and became a little afraid of Madeline. She explained, “My friend brought this back from abroad. It’s worth millions of dollars. I have to take care of it.” She spoke with a hint of pride in her voice.

Madeline couldn’t help but laugh inwardly at the naivety of her cousin. “How foolish to believe everything people say,” she thought to herself. “This is clearly a wild dog. You can’t just buy it overseas.”

Madeline motioned to Noel and instructed him, "Lock this dog up in a cage, and don't let it out." Juliette was unafraid of the wolfdog, but Madeline was concerned that such a large animal could harm the servants of the Jennings family.

"No, you're not touching it," Juliette shouted, subconsciously wanting to protect her beloved wolfdog.

"What an idiot," Madeline commented dryly.

"Noel, lock the dog and Juliette in separate cages. Only when I wake up can you release Juliette," Madeline said with a yawn, wanting to return to bed for a nap. This left Juliette stunned by her sudden command.

Juliette instinctively stepped back as Noel approached and warned, "Don't touch me. I'm Juliette Jennings, the second daughter of the Jennings family."

Madeline sneered in response, "Juliette, let me remind you that I provided everything you enjoy in the Jennings family. If I don't want to give it to you, your status will be no different than that of the dog."

Noel was cold-hearted but couldn't help feeling a sense of thrill at Madeline's words. "That's how Ms. Madeline Jennings should be," he thought. "Proud and unrestrained. No one can bully her."

"Noel, take them away. If anyone disturbs me again, they'll receive the same treatment," Madeline ordered before gracefully making her way upstairs.

This was a clear demonstration of deterrence penology.

The servants who once served Juliette in the Jennings residence immediately dared not protest.

Even when performing their duties, they did so as gently as possible so as not to disturb Madeline's rest.

After her nap, Madeline felt refreshed and ready for the day ahead. Dorothy had already prepared her breakfast by the time she woke up. It wasn't until just before she left for the office that Madeline vaguely recalled having locked a person in a dog cage.

As Madeline emerged from her car and placed her feet on the ground, her balance faltered, and she found herself face to face with a pair of sleek black leather shoes attached to a pair of long, straight legs.

“Dominic,” Madeline rasped, her nose instantly reddening. It was her second-oldest brother, back in

town too!

“My little girl is crying again. I didn’t believe Wilson when he said you were crying last time, but now I do,” Dominic teased, delicately producing a tissue to dab away her tears.

Madeline was always closest to Dominic, confiding in him all her secrets. As a child, he was her protector, standing in front of her and showing her how to stand up to bullies..

“Did someone bully you again?” Dominic asked, wiping her tears away with his hand.

Madeline sniffled and replied, “No, I’ve gotten rid of all the bullies.”

“My Maddie is so strong.” Dominic beamed, his cheeks displaying two shallow dimples.

“Domi, let’s head to the office first. I’ll be done for if someone snaps a photo of us,” Madeline said, helplessly sticking her tongue out.

Her brother had become an international celebrity. Dominic was incredibly talented, and his looks alone were enough to make all the young heartthrobs pale in comparison. It was no exaggeration to say that he was the hottest guy on the entire planet.

“No one would dare take pictures of us together,” Dominic said, affectionately ruffling Madeline’s hair.

“I brought you a gift. Let’s take it inside,” said Dominic as he took out a gift box from behind.

Madeline’s eyes lit up. She loved getting surprises from Dominic.

“Let’s go inside,” Madeline said, taking Dominic by his arm to the CEO-only lift so they wouldn’t be

seen.

Upon entering the office, Dominic's eyes roamed around the wide space and the bright floor-to-ceiling window.

His attention was drawn to the solid red wooden table that had a simplistic decoration and a family photo sitting among some office supplies.

After a brief moment of silence, Dominic flashed a smile at Madeline. "Maddie, these colors are too dull. Don't you prefer pink? I can have someone decorate it for you."

Madeline declined his offer with a shake of her head. "Dad used to work here. I don't want to ruin it. This is good enough." The mention of their father weighed heavy on her heart, causing her mood to drop once again.

You silly girl, how could a redecoration ruin anything? It's a new beginning, and your leadership will be the best promise to them. And when Jennings Group prospers under your lead, your brothers will join you and work for you." Dominic's words always had a way of amusing Madeline and

making her feel relaxed.

"Domi, are you leaving again?" Madeline asked, looking up at him expectantly.

The big city was very lonely for Madeline, without any family around.

"I'm not leaving," Dominic replied, looking at Madeline's reflection in the window. His little sister had grown up so quickly and was now so beautiful. "I'll be staying to accompany you," he added. with a smile.

Madeline felt relieved. "Yarwood still has a vacant apartment. Would you like to live there?" she asked but then thought better of it. She wanted to wait a while and let her three brothers live in the Jennings estate. She told herself to "wait for the right moment."

"Hmm?" Dominic smiled. "Now my little sister can support me," he joked, thinking of bragging to his friends in their group chat later.

"Anyway, it's vacant. You can just get someone to clean it and live there," said Madeline.

Dominic did not expect that from Madeline. He thought Madeline was so caring as to have an apartment ready for him to live in. "There's no need. The agent arranged a place for me. The place where I sleep every day is different," he added with a helpless sigh.

Madeline tilted her head, trying to understand the challenges of being a big star.

Dominic grinned mischievously as he approached the table, gift box in hand. "Maddie, I've got something for you," he announced, his eyes lighting up with excitement. With a flourish, he lifted the lid of the box to reveal a dazzling pink diamond necklace. It was a rare piece that had made international headlines for its exorbitant price and mysterious buyer. Madeline's heart skipped a beat as she gazed at the stunning piece of jewelry. She had always wanted to own it, but back then, when she was still a member of the Faraday family, she had to keep her desires hidden for fear of exposing her true identity. Little did she know, the mysterious buyer was none other than her own brother, Dominic.

Chapter 33 Seemingly Unbreakable Ties

Madeline was at a loss for words. "Domi, how could you..." she exclaimed, surprised at the extravagant pink diamond necklace that her brother had just presented to her.

"The first time I saw it, I thought of you, Maddie. It matches you very well. Except for you, it would

be a waste for anyone else to wear it," Dominic said seriously, looking at his sister with admiration.

Madeline was touched once again by her brother's thoughtful gesture.

As tears began to form in her eyes, Dominic comforted her. "Don't cry. I'll put it on for you."

As the cold necklace touched her skin, Madeline trembled slightly.

She realized how good it felt to have her family around her, especially after being alone for so long.

It was a reminder that despite everything, she was not alone in this world.

As Jonas entered the office, Dominic was taken aback by the sudden knock on the door.

“It’s Jonas.” Madeline chuckled, amused by her brother’s reaction.

Dominic scratched the little girl’s nose playfully and promised, “I won’t disturb you anymore. I’ll take you to eat street food next time, okay?”

Madeline swallowed her saliva at the thought of the savory food. Dominic truly understood her. She gave a fervent nod, determined to visit the street food vendor again soon.

As Dominic left, Jonas entered, momentarily stunned at the sight of Mr. Jennings back in the office. “Yes... Mr. Jennings is back!” he exclaimed.

Madeline beamed with joy. “Yes, my brother is back.”

Jonas clenched his fists, his heart filled with elation. He thought to himself, “Mr. Jennings’ return meant that Ms. Jennings wouldn’t have to shoulder the burden alone.”

He couldn’t be more thrilled for Madeline.

“How is the design department?” Madeline swiftly shifted into work mode.

Jonas had come in solely to deliver a report on the matter.

The Jennings Group had always been a major player in the real estate industry, with other businesses considered mere sidelines. In the past, they struggled in non-real estate ventures, but with perseverance, they managed to turn things around. Unfortunately, their design department had hit a creative drought for many years.

“The gross merchandise value you mentioned earlier is slightly better than last month, but it’s still not good enough. Their design inspiration is almost non-existent,” Jonas reported as he placed the integrated materials on Madeline’s desk.

Madeline quickly scanned through them and formulated a plan.

“We need to shake things up. Let’s bring in people from the entertainment industry to lead the design team and elevate Jennings Group’s reputation,” Madeline declared, her eyes narrowed as she contemplated her next move.

She was determined to make the Jennings Group a comprehensive company, just as her father had envisioned.

“Alright, I’ll take a look at the recruitment list. We’re going to make some serious changes to the

design department,” Jonas replied, nodding in admiration of Madeline’s bravery.

He knew that the entire department might have to endure some gossip and criticism, especially since Madeline wasn’t just promoted to leadership but rather was placed in a high-ranking position. From the get-go. Naturally, some people would be unhappy about it.

“Don’t worry, Jonas. If anything goes wrong, I’ve got your back,” Madeline reassured him. With her shoulders lowered and her eyes gleaming with determination, she exuded a sense of unwavering strength.

Jonas found himself unexpectedly inspired by her words.

Madeline was engrossed in thoughts about the property listings when a voice message from Louis interrupted her. His booming voice nearly made her drop her phone. “Maddie, are you a damn wizard or what? The share price of Faraday Corporation has skyrocketed after its major dip, just as you predicted!”

Madeline raised an eyebrow, unsurprised by the sudden change.

The stock market was unpredictable, but the fluctuation in Faraday Corporation’s share prices seemed suspiciously orchestrated.

Most people wouldn’t notice, but Madeline had a sharp eye for such manipulations.

“Stop buying it,” Madeline typed back to Louis, her slender fingers tapping on the keyboard.

The share price was too volatile, and anyone who jumped in now was likely to lose money.

“Say, Maddie, are you that enigmatic investor who always hits it big?” Louis inquired playfully.

Madeline gazed thoughtfully at the screen before typing a calm reply, "Did you fall asleep with your head on the ground and wake up still dreaming?"

Louis was left speechless. He'd never won an argument with Madeline, who always remained composed and elegant, never stooping to insults or profanity.

Madeline was feeling overwhelmed as she glanced at the papers spread out before her.

She had never enjoyed reading when she was in school and would often doze off after just 30 minutes of reading.

But despite this, her mind would absorb all of the information she needed in that short amount of

time.

Madeline remembered the doctor telling her during a physical examination at the hospital that her brain was different from that of ordinary people, meaning that she was exceptionally intelligent. However, this also meant that she had to be careful not to reveal it so as to avoid becoming an experimental subject.

From that point on, Madeline made a point to avoid physical examinations.

Madeline shook her head, feeling slightly dizzy. It looked like she would have to visit the hospital again.

Meanwhile, at Yarwood Hospital, a caretaker stood guard outside a ward, urging. "Mr. Faraday, please reconsider. Mrs. Faraday is in a fragile state right now. Going inside might worsen her condition."

"Mrs. Faraday said that you can only come in if you take Ms. Jennings home," the caretaker

reiterated Agnes' words after a moment of hesitation.

Sebastian pursed his lips tightly, suppressing the sadness in his heart, and asked, "How is Agnes. doing?"

The caretaker shook her head. "Her blood pressure stabilized briefly, but your divorce triggered her again, causing the tumor in her brain to start spreading.

The doctors say that without prompt. surgery, even the miracle doctor may not be able to save her.”

Sebastian’s eyes narrowed. He hadn’t expected the situation to be so dire.

But he had yet to find the miracle doctor.

“Schedule the surgery for next week,” Sebastian said in a low voice.

He decided to abandon the search for the miracle doctor. Even if he found one, Agnes might not survive long enough for the doctor to treat her.

Instead, he would invite foreign doctors to perform the surgery in a week’s time, hoping for a higher success rate.

Sebastian stepped forward, and the caretaker quickly blocked his path. “Mr. Faraday, please, I implore you not to enter,” the caretaker pleaded, fully aware that she had no real authority to stop him.

Sebastian narrowed his eyes. “I’ll just take a look from outside,” he said, stepping closer to the glass door to catch a glimpse of Agnes.

In today’s visit, Agnes looked frail but still had the strength to flip through a photo album belonging to Madeline.

On the other hand, Sebastian avoided looking at her and instead focused on the ground.

He couldn’t quite understand his own thoughts about Madeline.

It seemed that everything in his life at the moment revolved around Madeline. “How could this woman be so capable that she swayed even his grandmother? Or was it him who wanted everything to be connected to her in some way?” thought Sebastian to himself.

Sebastian felt like he was trapped in a never-ending cycle and the one at the center of it all was

none other than Madeline.

Sebastian reached into his pocket to grab a cigarette, but then he remembered that he was at a hospital and decided against it.

“Please take care of my grandmother. Call me if anything happens,” Sebastian instructed the caretaker, leaving his business card with her before making his exit from the hospital through a side door.

As fate would have it, Madeline arrived through the front door just as Sebastian left.

Though he walked with his head lowered and missed her, Madeline caught a glimpse of Sebastian’s slim profile.

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For years, Madeline had been in love with him, and she knew his scent like the back of her hand-she could pick it out from a mile away.

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Chapter 34 Will You Be My Girlfriend

However... Sebastian seldom went to the hospital. He had always had his family doctor treat him

when he was sick.

She couldn't make sense of it.

In the end, she decided to stop thinking about it."

It wasn't her business after all. She didn't have to worry about it.

Madeline went to the fast-track counter. It turned out that she had a cold.

"I have a question, Doctor. Is the patient hospitalized here a member of the Faraday family?"

The doctor looked up and took a glance at Madeline. "I'm sorry, but we have to keep our patient's

information confidential."

Madeline didn't say anything more when she heard how resolute the doctor sounded.

She thought, "Forget it. I'll find out myself if he is not going to tell me."

"Poor Mrs. Faraday. She used to be accompanied by her daughter-in-law when she was sick, but now she only has a caretaker to take care of her."

“Shh, watch your mouth. Mr. Faraday is busy with work and can’t spare time... I also heard that a lot has been happening to the Faraday family recently. It seems that Mrs. Faraday fell sick from anger because of the divorce.”

Two nurses were whispering to each other as they walked by.

Unfortunately, Madeline overheard them.

“Is Grandma Agnes sick?” Madeline wondered with her lips pursed. Her heart skipped a beat at the thought of that.

Among the Faraday family, Agnes loved Madeline the most and truly regarded Madeline as family.

Madeline knew that Agnes was ill. Back when Madeline was at the Faraday residence, Madeline had been adding some medicinal herbs into Agnes’ meals to keep Agnes’ condition under control.

“Could it have worsened?” she quietly dreaded.

Madeline then took a glance at the doctor’s computer before she looked away.

After returning to her car, Madeline typed in the doctor’s computer model on the keyboard and directly hacked into the computer.

When she read about Agnes’ condition... Sure enough, it was worse than she thought.

Madeline had to suck in a deep breath when the mild pain in her chest hit her.

Before Madeline’s car came to a complete stop, she was blocked by a bright pink sports car.

She would have slammed into the pink car if it weren’t for her stable driving skills.

The moment Madeline raised her eyes and lowered the roof of her car, her luxury car instantly turned into a luxury sports car.

At a glance, the built-in seat cushion was made of genuine leather, and even the decorations in it were originals from abroad.

Even though Hendrix had seen his fair share of luxuries in life, he was still stunned by the view in front of him.

He didn't expect Madeline to be so... indiscreet.

Madeline soon raised her beautiful eyes and asked with the corners of her red lips slightly raised, "Is something the matter, Mr. Smith?"

Hendrix's cars were gradually getting more to his taste. It was a red car last time, and now it **was**... hot pink. As expected of him.

Hendrix wiped off the star-struck look in his eyes and cleared his throat.

"Madeline, how have you been?"

Madeline rolled her eyes upon hearing his words. Not even a Mary Sue would say something as old-fashioned as his opening line.

Madeline slightly raised her arm and lazily leaned against the door. "Everything has been going well because you were not around to disturb me, Mr. Smith. I always wake up naturally from sleep."

Hendrix's eyebrows shot up. Sure enough, this woman was no ordinary person.

Other women would swarm toward him when they saw him.

Madeline was the only one Hendrix knew was not playing hard to get and wasn't even interested in him. However, the more frustrated Hendrix was, the bolder he became. He was confident in himself.

The next move could change Madeline's mind!

As Hendrix secretly clicked the remote control switch, the pink hood suddenly rose slowly, showing a large cluster of red roses surrounded by a few small lights covering the back seat. Hendrix then took out the bouquet behind him and asked, "Madeline, will you be my girlfriend?"

Madeline merely shrugged. He could make a young lady fall for him with his trick. But her? She could only be won over if there were at least a few mansions for her.

Madeline opened her mouth and lightheartedly asked, "Oh? Did you gain courage after two days?"

Hendrix gulped upon hearing that. The feeling of the knife pressing against his neck felt like it was only yesterday when it happened.

"How about I change the terms?" Hendrix asked tentatively.

"I'm listening." Madeline withdrew her gaze and leaned lazily into the chair. Her long legs were crossed in a wanton and wild manner.

"There's a party tonight." Hendrix was embarrassed when he asked, "Can you come with me?"

"As your date? Madeline frowned.

She somewhat understood what he meant, but she was reluctant to agree to it.

"No, no. As my friend is fine."

Hendrix was afraid that Madeline would refuse, and he shook his head as he explained.

"Friend?" Madeline pondered with her lips pursed. She soon told him. "Send me the time and place.

This is the condition I owe you. We are even after tonight, Mr. Smith."

She had always been someone who drew a clear line between her public and private life.

Hendrix was a little disappointed....

However, he might be able to turn things around after spending one night with Madeline.

"Okay." Hendrix heavily nodded with a smile in his eyes.

Hendrix then offered excitedly, "I'll bring the roses up for you."

Hearing that, Madeline inserted the key and started the car....

Hendrix was so startled and hurriedly ducked to one side.

"Donate to the welfare home then. You can write my name." After Madeline threw that out, the luxury car roared as it drove straight into the underground parking of Jennings Group.

Before Madeline entered the company, she heard the employees talking.

"So something might be going on between Ms. Jennings and Mr. Smith."

"Heh. What did you think? She literally popped out of nowhere. They make her sound all great, but in fact, someone is backing her up!"

"I agree. What can a woman do? She would have been kicked out if it weren't for Mr. Smith."

"Sure enough, it's more important for a woman to look good. She can get anything by using seduction as she pleases."

Madeline's four-inch heels naturally stepped on the floor.

Squinting, she cast an indifferent glance at the employees.

"Do you have too much free time to be talking about your boss during working hours?" Madeline demanded coldly.

When the female employees heard Madeline's voice, their backs immediately turned cold.

They quickly turned around to greet her.

"M—Ms. Jennings..."

"You can go ahead and resign if you disapprove of me. You talk about me behind your back, so why can't you improve your performance instead?" Madelyn glared and turned to two of the female employees. "Callie, you have been working here for a year, right? How many buildings have you sold? And Lydia, you are also a senior in the company. Where is the design?"

Madeline looked at the rest of the female employees in front of her with sharp eyes and continued, "I won't name the rest of you, but you guys are the ones who wander around the coffee shop the most. How dare you talk about me behind your back?"

They were stunned. They thought they were unnoticeable at the company, **but** it turned out that Madeline had found out so much about them in just a few days.

"I want you lot **to** report to the finance department later. I will be deducting three days' worth of your bonuses," Madeline sneered and went to her office, leaving behind the trembling women frozen in place.

They realized how extraordinary Madeline was...

"She is so cool!"

"Ms. Jennings is awesome!"

The two receptionists couldn't help but take a photo of Madeline.

They could finally use her photos as their desktop backgrounds!

"Ms. Jennings, you were too kind to those people." Jonas saw everything just now and thought Madeline's way of handling them was too gentle.

Anyone who talked about his CEO behind her back should immediately be fired!

Chapter 35 Catch Him Cheating

Madeline smiled and shook her head. "A willing mind can easily take advantage of an unstable foundation. The other employees of the company will not know what is good for them if I severely punished the group earlier."

Madeline was not afraid of gossip of **this** sort, but she knew that it would all be a waste of time. She would instead do something more meaningful.

Jonas nodded. He could never think as far as Madeline did.

“Ms. Jennings, you should take a good rest. Work may be important, but your health is more important than work.”

Jonas began to solemnly preach when he noticed how unenergetic Madeline looked.

Madeline smiled helplessly and complained, “How are you becoming more and more like Louis now? You are both nagging me!”

“Ms. Jennings, as the backbone of Jennings Group, you must take good care of yourself.” When Jonas realized how he had overstepped his line a little, he smacked his lips and softened his tone.

“Okay.” Madeline nodded.

“I’ll get you some water.” Jonas saw that there was medicine next to Madeline, and he hurried out. to prepare water.

Madeline smiled as she watched him leave. The people around her treated her sincerely.

That was all she needed.

However...

Madeline’s smile instantly froze when she glanced at her desktop.

Sebastian was still her screensaver.

She used to love him so much,

She clicked on the screen and changed it into default wallpaper.

Now, this was more comfortable for the eyes.

When Madeline received Natalie’s call, she almost didn’t know what to say.

By right, Natalie should be at the hospital during this time....

“Maddie, are you busy? I’m on the first floor of your company now. I want to see you...”

Madeline quickly turned off the computer when she heard something wrong with Natalie's tone.

"Wait for me. I'll be right down."

There was a bar downstairs where they sold sweet wine that ladies enjoyed.

"Two Moscato," Madeline casually ordered two glasses of wine and rushed to the corner.

For no reason, there was an extra hint of decadence when the dim light shone on the young lady.

Unlike her usual self, Natalie looked very pale. The white coat she had on made it obvious she had just run out of the hospital and hadn't had time to change into something else.

"What's going on?" Madeline stood next to the wooden chair. Her chest tightened the moment she

www.

saw Natalie.

Natalie let out a bitter smile. "Maddie, I have been cheated on..."

Natalie slid her palms into her hair and stared blankly at the table.

"Kendrick cheated?" Madeline narrowed her eyes and asked coldly.

"Yes." Natalie bit her lower lip and tried to hold back the tears in her eyes.

She didn't want to cry for a scumbag. It was too embarrassing. Despite her thoughts, she couldn't help crying.

She and Kendrick had been together for half a year. Although they hadn't been together for a long time, she had been working hard to make this relationship work.

But who knew... She saw Kendrick hugging a woman at the hospital today.

“Where is he?” Madeline clenched her fists as a trace of resentment flashed in her eyes.

She quietly fumed, “There sure are many scumbags this year. First, I got divorced, and now my best friend has been cheated on.”

Natalie was a beautiful woman with a good personality, but Kendrick had to be ungrateful.

“I followed them into a hotel but was too scared to follow them after that...” Natalie felt that she couldn’t breathe just thinking about how intimate the two had been earlier.

“I’ll go with you. You will have a clean break—up with that scumbag today.” Of course, Madeline wouldn’t let her best friend be taken advantage of.

That bastard had to bear the consequences of cheating.

Madeline drove all the way to the hotel Natalie mentioned.

“How exciting,” Madeline fumed. “They got a room in the middle of the day.”

“I don’t know which room they are in.” Natalie started to cower when they arrived at the hotel.

She felt scared as this was her first time catching someone cheating.

“438. I hacked into the surveillance cameras,” Madeline replied calmly.

Natalie didn’t give a reply.

“Natalie, don’t go if you feel like backing out. I can send you a copy of the footage when I hack into it. You can watch it live. Let’s just treat this as an outing for you and me.”

Madeline crossed her arms in front of her chest and leaned against the counter to look at her friend.

This was up to Natalie to decide.

“I’m not a coward. Let’s go...”

She would rather they have a clean break.

Natalie took off her white coat to show her excellent figure before putting on light makeup.

Madeline's eyes immediately lit up. Natalie was truly a beauty.

After they knocked on the door, a man's impatient voice rang out from the room. "Who is it?"

Madeline deliberately blocked the peephole and replied, "Delivery."

When the door opened, Kendrick was wrapped in a white bathrobe, and his hair was still dripping wet. Clearly, he was taking a shower.

"N-Nat." Kendrick panicked when he saw his girlfriend.

Natalie calmly looked into the room. "Who is **it**?"

"No one! It is just me." Kendrick forced a smile.

"You should be in Malarnor now, so what are you doing in this hotel? Is this hotel called Malarnor?"

Natalie sneered. It felt insulting for her to say those words.

It seemed like his business trips for the last six months were spent at hotels.

"Nat, listen to me."

"Okay, I'm listening." Natalie stood up straight and looked at the man in front of her as calmly as she could. She wanted to see how he was going to smooth this over.

"I just came back today. I wanted to shower and see you after getting off the helicopter. We unexpectedly were thinking the same thing! You even came to see me." Kendrick walked forward, with a smile and tried to hug Natalie.

Natalie subconsciously took a step back and stared at him in disgust. "Don't touch me. You are dirty."

"Nat... What do you mean?" Kendrick's face darkened.

Madeline stood behind Natalie and quietly waited.

She was going to be there as long as her friend needed her.

“There **is** another woman in the room, isn’t there?”

Although it was a question, Natalie was sure.

“No!”

“Kendrick, why are you taking **so** long to get takeout?”

As soon as the man finished speaking, a sweet voice belonging to a female came from the room.

It was a slap in the face for Kendrick.

“Heh.” Natalie scoffed and pushed the man away.

A woman wrapped in the same pajamas as Kendrick screamed when she saw Natalie.

When she heard that, Natalie stuffed the tissue she used to wipe her hands into the noisy woman’s mouth.

“This is the woman you fancy?” Natalie raised her eyebrows slightly. She only continued after a long minute. “Kendrick, your taste is getting worse. At least find someone who looks better than me.”

When the woman heard Natalie’s contemptuous words, she opened her eyes wide, as if she wanted to swallow Natalie.

“That’s not it, Nat. This woman seduced me!” Kendrick started to explain in a panic.

He didn’t want to break up with Natalie. Natalie was better than this woman in terms of family background and appearance.

However, Natalie was too traditional to accept intimacy before marriage.

That was why Kendrick took other women to bed instead.

Chapter 36 Stage Kissing

But regardless, it was true that Kendrick cheated on her.

Natalie sneered, "Can a woman force you to sleep with her? Kendrick, why can't you be upright for once?"

The woman took the tissue out of her mouth and glared at Natalie before she ran up to Kendrick and whined, "Kendrick, is this the fierce woman you told me about? She is not even half as gentle as I am. No wonder-"

"Shut up." Kendrick shook off the woman. "Nat, don't listen to this woman's bullshit."

Outside the door, Madeline let out a lazy yawn.

"Maddie? What happened?"

Dominic, who happened to come to the hotel to do something, was stunned when he saw her.

"Domi?" Madeline blinked in shock.

"I... I'm here to help my friend catch a cheater. You..."

Seeing that her brother was only wearing a white shirt with the hem wrinkled, she instantly understood.

It was not like he could do anything else here.

"What are you thinking?" Dominic patted his little sister on the head helplessly.

"We are shooting an advertisement here. I came to check the set. No matter how starved I am, I won't get a random woman."

Dominic blurted out an explanation for fear of leaving a bad impression on Madeline.

"I'm kidding," Madeline teased.

She knew Dominic often had scandals about him, but those were all groundless rumors by the entertainment reporters. Dominic let them be because he did not bother to clarify them.

Suddenly, the quiet room became rowdy.

Madeline looked up and saw the woman rushing toward Natalie while baring her teeth. Kendrick was stunned for a long while, and he did not know who to help.

“Watch out, Natalie!”

Madeline had no time to stop the wine glass that was about to hit Natalie’s head.

Seeing this, Natalie closed her eyes and smiled bitterly. She was betting on what Kendrick would do.

The burst of what smelled like camellia suddenly hit Natalie, surprising her. It was an unfamiliar yet inviting smell.

When she opened her eyes, she was greeted by a close-up of an unbuttoned top button of a man’s white shirt and collarbone.

Natalie subconsciously swallowed her saliva. As soon as she raised her eyes, she almost sank into what she saw.

The man’s eyes, whose outer corners were upturned, were cold. He was holding a glass of

wine—presumably the one he snatched from the woman—in his elegant left hand.

A loud sound blasted in the room.

Dominic took advantage of his height to pour the red wine from the glass onto the woman’s head.

“Ah!” She could not help but shout when the red liquid got into her eyes.

“Not too bad, hmm?” Dominic smirked and mocked the woman in front of him.

“You... Who are you?” Kendrick’s eyes turned red when he saw the man who suddenly rushed into

the room.

Because Dominic was more famous abroad than locally, it was normal that Kendrick did not know who he was.

Madeline had calmed down, and when she heard Kendrick’s question, she pushed Natalie from behind into Dominic’s arms.

Natalie was taken aback for two seconds before returning to her senses. “Do you still not understand? This is my boyfriend. Kendrick, do you think you are the only one who can find a mistress? Even I can get myself a pretty boy.”

Pretty boy?

Dominic raised his eyes slightly. That was not what he had in mind about himself...

“How dare you cheat on me, Natalie?” Kendrick glared at the man and woman in front of him. Natalie only snickered. She knew something when Kendrick did not stop the woman who wanted to hit her with a glass.

They were done.

Natalie would not want a dirty man.

Natalie threw her arms around Dominic’s neck, her red lips moving. “Help me, please?”

Dominic looked at the beautiful woman in confusion. Did he not know how he was supposed to help her?

He had no experience.

And the movie he was filming was not a romantic one. This was his blind spot.

The reason why he did what he did was that she was a friend of Maddie’s.

Natalie stood on tiptoe and closed her eyes slightly. At this moment, she seemed to hear the man's heartbeat.

Natalie lightly grazed his thin lips and whispered, "Stage kissing should be your forte."

Dominic was immediately taken aback.

The only movie he had ever filmed with a woman was a martial art one. Stage kisses were never part of what he did!

Still, Dominic stiffly hugged Natalie's waist and leaned down slightly.

With the deceiving angle they were at, Madeline felt her heart flutter when she thought they had kissed each other.

Natalie, too, stiffened for a moment. However, she soon got comfortable with it.

Dominic raised his eyebrows. If Natalie had not been Madeline's friend, he would have tossed Natalie aside when Natalie got closer to him...

"Natalie, I didn't think you would dare betray me. I won't let you get away with it."

Kendrick gritted his teeth, and there was a trace of ferocity on his handsome face.

There was no denying that Kendrick was good-looking, but he was not on the same level at all compared to Dominic.

"I'll wait, Kendrick. I'm telling you, I'm the one who dumped you today."

Natalie balled her fists as she suppressed the bitterness in her heart.

"Natalie, you... How dare you break up with me?" Kendrick looked at her in disbelief.

Natalie had a good temper and tolerated everything he did, and yet she was now breaking up with him!

Madeline scoffed and stepped forward. "You even got a room with someone else. Surely, nothing is wrong with Natalie wanting to break up with you."

"Shut up! It was you who instigated this! Nat, this woman is trying to break us up because she is jealous of us. You can't let them fool you!"

Kendrick was starting to get anxious.

He could have fun with any woman outside but needed a virtuous one at home.

Dominic's eyes darkened when he heard his little sister being scolded. He immediately raised his leg and kicked Kendrick to the floor.

"What did you say?"

Both Natalie and Madeline were shocked.

Kendrick was sweating because of the pain from the kick.

"Maddie, the two of you should leave this room first."

Dominic calmed the emotions in his eyes. It was about to get bloody here in a while. He did not want to scare the ladies.

Hearing that, Madeline pulled Natalie along and nodded blankly. "Domi, remember to keep him alive."

"Nat!"

Kendrick yelled weakly, but Natalie left without looking back.

She would never be softhearted. Kendrick was only getting what he deserved.

Madeline heard the sound of bone dislocating just as they closed the door behind them.

She tilted her head and saw Natalie with her head bowed and hands balled up slightly.

"You still haven't given up yet?"

Natalie blinked. "I'm just upset about how I never noticed what a scumbag he was during all **those** months we were together."

Madeline sighed. "It's okay. My brother has avenged you."

Kendrick would either end up dead or crippled after being beaten up.

Dominic soon came out of the room and closed the door again. "I'll send the two of you back."

"He..." Natalie began hesitantly.

"An ambulance will come later," Dominic calmly informed them.

He thought, "How dare he scold my little sister? Heh... I'm showing mercy by keeping him alive."

Chapter 37 He Bullied Me

"I drove here. Dominic, you can take Natalie home. I have to go to the company." Then, Madeline winked at Dominic.

Dominic was worried about Madeline. "Park your car here. I'll drive you home first."

Madeline shook her head. "I'm the champion of a racing competition. Don't worry about me. I'm leaving. Remember to help me get Nat home safely."

After saying that, she waved her hands at them and hurried away.

It was a great opportunity for Natalie. She did not want to be a third wheel in that situation.

Dominic rubbed his eyebrows, feeling helpless.

Thinking of what happened just now, Natalie blushed. "Just now... Thank you."

It was the first time she was so close to a man.

Dominic raised his eyebrows and said, "You'd better not challenge a man's patience in the future. Not everyone can control themselves like me."

Natalie was stunned and looked at the charming man in front of her in confusion.

Dominic removed his hand from his pocket and pressed the elevator button. "It's okay. I'll take you home. Let's go downstairs."

"Okay." Natalie quickly entered the elevator after coming back to her senses.

She heard from Madeline that Dominic was a celebrity. All the good-looking men were hard to get close with. Although Natalie felt her heart slightly racing when meeting Dominic just now, she would not fall in love with him.

She did not want to suffer from betrayal anymore.

With the noise of the brake, the motorcycle stopped at the door of a small supermarket.

Madeline seriously suspected that she had gone to the wrong place.

However, the navigation showed that the destination was nearby.

Madeline frowned and thought, "Is Hendrix teasing me?"

When Madeline lifted her phone and wanted to call and question Hendrix, a cheerful male voice came. "Madeline, did you come by motorcycle? Hendrix looked at the eye-catching motorcycle in astonishment. He could not imagine how Madeline got there.

The big motorcycle needed the rider to be strong enough to balance. Some men did not dare to drive, let alone such petite girls as Madeline.

Madeline lifted her leg, got off the motorcycle, and parked the motorcycle. She did not want to talk too much with Hendrix and went straight to the point. "Where is the gathering?"

Hendrix gulped and pointed to the supermarket. "Right here."

Madeline looked up **and** scrutinized the place for a moment. "Are you asking me to accompany you to the supermarket?"

"No." Hendrix was guilty and looked away.

Then, Hendrix pushed Madeline into the supermarket from behind. "Ahem. Let's go in **first**."

It was indeed a small supermarket, but Hendrix took her underground.

Before the underground elevator opened, Madeline heard a noise.

Madeline narrowed her eyes and curled her red lips slightly. "Mr. Smith, this is not a gathering, right?"

Looking at Madeline's eyes, Hendrix could not help but gulp. "It's a gathering. They're friends that I know-"

Before Hendrix could finish, the elevator door opened.

The smile on Madeline's face did not fade, and Madeline curled her lips even more.

She did not expect an underground casino could be hidden in such a small place.

The space underground was much larger than that above. The casino seemed to be different from other casinos. The people were not smoking there.

Although the place was noisy, it was not too much to handle.

Everyone greeted Hendrix politely when they saw him.

One of them asked, "Mr. Smith, is this your girlfriend?"

"What a beautiful girl. Hendrix, when did you have such good luck?"

When Hendrix's friends in the casino saw Madeline, their eyes lit up.

Hendrix was afraid his friends would provoke Madeline, so he quickly interrupted, "Hey, don't talk nonsense. Madeline, don't mind their nonsense. They're all my friends. We're used to joking

around.”

Madeline glanced sideways at him and said, “If you were over three feet away from me, they wouldn’t overthink.”

Hendrix was speechless.

He thought, “What went wrong? I’m handsome and charming. She couldn’t dislike me this much, right?”

“Why did you call me over here tonight? Do you want me to watch you gamble?” asked Madeline.

She saw the place was not small, and there were playing cards on every table .

Hendrix boldly found a seat and sat. “Madeline, how about I give you all the money if I win tonight?”

Madeline parted her lips and said softly, “If you lose, I don’t have the money to make it up to you.”

Hendrix almost choked on his saliva.

Then, he said, “Don’t worry. I won’t lose.”

Hendrix was good at gambling. He was invincible and rarely lost.

He brought Madeline there just to show her his skills.

Hendrix had specially searched for tricks on how to pursue a girl. One of the tricks was to make the girl admire him.

After pondering, Hendrix thought the casino was the most suitable **place to** do that.

Madeline raised her eyebrows. “Come on.”

She agreed as long as she would not lose her money.

Someone thoughtfully prepared a chair for Madeline.

Madeline sat behind Hendrix and lazily glanced at the cards he had.

She mused, "He's lucky."

A faint smile appeared on Madeline's face.

Before the first round was finished, Madeline suddenly felt that the atmosphere around her was tense.

Then, she saw a man walking toward her with his back against the light. He had a trace of gloom on his handsome face.

It was Sebastian.

Sebastian was in the casino all the time but went to the restroom earlier. He did not expect to see Madeline after coming out.

More importantly, he saw Madeline sitting next to Hendrix.

Their gazes met for a second, and Madeline looked away first.

Sebastian bent over and took the cards from a man's hand. "Go to another table."

When the man turned around and saw Sebastian, he obediently gave up his seat. "Sebastian, do you want to play with me?" Hendrix was shocked and dropped his jaw. They had never played cards at the same table.

Sebastian pursed his lips slightly before slowly parting them, saying. "Come on."

Hendrix complied. He was sure that he would win the game.

"Sebastian, if you lose, will you give me the villa in Southern District?" Hendrix deliberately took advantage of the situation.

Sebastian sneered, "Do you think you can win?"

Hendrix was at a loss for words.

“Straight flush.” Hendrix threw out the cards and crossed his legs proudly. “How about that, Sebastian? The villa in Southern District belongs to me-”

Before Hendrix could finish his words, he was stunned when he noticed Sebastian’s cards. Madeline mentally remarked, “Five of a kind! How is that possible?”

Madeline raised her eyebrows. She did not expect Sebastian to be an expert in playing cards. She thought people like Sebastian only liked to manage a business.

In fact, the casino was also the property of Faraday Corporation and was legal. The people who came there were all rich and powerful. Thus, there were no dirty tricks in the casino.

Sebastian said proudly. “You’ve lost.”

Hendrix was so furious that his words were stuck in his throat.

He could only keep staring at Sebastian sitting opposite him.

Hendrix could not defeat Sebastian in a fight but had to vent his anger.

Sebastian sneered, “That’s all you got? Don’t you feel embarrassed to come to the casino?”

Hendrix suddenly felt weak.

He looked at Madeline pitifully. “Madeline, he bullied me.”

Madeline was speechless.

She thought, “It’s between you two. What does this have to do with me?”

Chapter 38 Gambling With Leine

With Madeline by his side, Sebastian cast a sharp glance over, noting Hendrix’s imposing presence. He couldn’t embarrass himself in front of the person he liked.

“Sebastian, you’re the king of gamblers. How can I compete with you?” Hendrix stood defiantly. “I’m not playing anymore.”

“I’ll take you elsewhere, Madeline. There are numerous mysteries in this place.” Hendrix wanted to bring her to a remote location to cultivate their relationship.

“Wait a minute.” Sebastian and Madeline spoke at the same time.

Sebastian frowned and waited for the woman to speak first.

“Do you want the villa in Southern District?” Madeline asked casually.

Hendrix’s eyes lit up briefly before darkening again.

Sebastian’s real estate prices were skyrocketing, not only because of its excellent geographical location but also because of its unique layout. It was incomparable, even in Jussipi.

Hendrix had his eye on that villa for a long time.

“I don’t really want it. It doesn’t matter.” Hendrix spread his hands deliberately and pretended to be indifferent about it.

However, Madeline had already seen the glint in his eyes.

Madeline pondered momentarily, thought about her chances of winning, subconsciously touched her pinky ring, and felt at ease.

“I can help you win it.” Madeline’s words were extremely frivolous.

It was as if an older brother consoling his younger brother. “Don’t be afraid. I’ll protect you.”

Hendrix blinked and thought, “The girl I like is so domineering!”

Everyone looked at Madeline because of her words. “How daring is she to say such things?”

Everyone in the casino knew Sebastian was a legend, who could win even with his eyes closed.

“Hey, where did this ignorant woman come from? How bold of her to provoke Mr. Faraday.”

“I’m about to pass out from laughter. This lady is most likely from the countryside. She dared to claim victory over Mr. Faraday.”

“I believe she is attempting to gain Mr. Faraday’s favor.”

“What a cunning woman.”

“Don’t worry. Mr. Faraday will never play with her. Let’s watch the drama unfold. Mr. Faraday would

never sit with a woman at a table.”

Several women gathered and satirized loudly.

Madeline resembled a clown in their eyes.

“Mr. Faraday would undoubtedly kick her out soon,” they thought.

“Shut up.” Sebastian frowned and spoke coldly.

“Do you want to play?” he asked, looking up at Madeline.

“Yeah.” Madeline nodded.

“Someone, wipe the table, and replace the cards,” he said.

“Since Leine wants to play, I would... accompany her,” Sebastian thought to himself.

As a result, everyone was taken aback. Was Sebastian really going to play with this woman?

“I’ll repay you by helping you win the house. We won’t owe each other anything then.” Madeline spoke in hushed tones that only the two of them could hear.

Hendrix licked his lips, knowing Madeline couldn’t win. “If you don’t win, you still owe me one.” Madeline rubbed her brows and thought, “Kids are so difficult to deal with.”

The person arranged by Sebastian brought her a new chair.

There was a pink cushion on it, which was specially prepared for Madeline.

The two exchanged glances across the table. She'd seen those deep eyes for five years, but nothing had changed; she felt like she could sink into them in a second.

Madeline suppressed the strange feeling in her heart and slightly adjusted her expression. The man on the other side pursed his thin lips, his black trench coat enhancing his noble appearance.

However, he appeared to be a little thinner, most likely because of Cecilia's torment.

"Let's start," Madeline said with a smile.

Sebastian motioned for the person next to him to begin dealing with the cards.

Sebastian

kept staring at the woman across from him, and his gaze was so intense. It was hard for Madeline to pretend she didn't know.

There was no doubt that Sebastian would win this game, but everyone still stood behind him, excitedly. They wanted to watch the king of gamblers play a game.

It was quieter at Madeline's side. Only Hendrix was present.

"Don't be afraid, Madeline. It's not humiliating to lose. Sebastian's a lunatic. He is exceptionally gifted in this field. You shouldn't take it personally." Hendrix was worried that she'd be devastated later, so he turned on the voice recorder on his phone.

Madeline frowned. "Do you know why you can't win?"

Hendrix subconsciously asked, "Why?"

"You talk too much," she answered. Then, Madeline spat out two words coldly, "Shut up."

Madeline didn't notice that these two words were identical to what Sebastian had just said.

"How could they be so similar to each other?" Hendrix exclaimed inwardly.

Sebastian, on the other hand, looked at the interaction between the two, and his eyes became cold

once more.

Madeline smiled before lifting the cards. "If I win this game, Mr. Faraday, the villa in Southern District will be mine. If you win..."

Hendrix's head buzzed as he heard this.

"Don't be rash, Ms. Jennings. Sebastian is simply unbeatable. You have no idea what his skill level_____

1. is. Even Hades may not be his adversary." Hendrix continued to ramble, but Madeline turned a deaf ear to his words.

Sebastian held the cards in his long, slender hand, and the veins on his forehead were slightly bulging.

"You can play your cards now." The host next to him quickly spoke in a soft voice after he sensed that something was wrong.

This game was different from the usual bets. This game required a lot of skill. The order, as well as the ability to predict the cards, was likely to become important factors...

Sebastian was a good strategist, so he could feel at ease even in the casino.

Hendrix glanced at Madeline's cards. He couldn't help but rub his brows and thought, "It's over. She's definitely losing."

Perhaps he should take her and flee first.

Madeline calmly threw a card out.

"Ha-ha!" everyone laughed disdainfully.

“Has this woman never played before?” they thought.

She undoubtedly lost in the first round.

“Let’s continue.” Madeline’s eyes were fearless.

“This woman is very good at acting...”

“I believe she is merely attempting to attract Mr. Faraday’s attention.”

Everyone couldn’t stop talking once more.

In the second round, she lost again.

Sebastian’s eyes narrowed, and his expression became more complicated.

This round was a little confusing.

Madeline shuffled the remaining cards in front of her, and then randomly selected one.

“My apologies, Mr. Faraday, I might steal the show next.” The woman’s red lips curled slightly, on e hand on the table, her confidence soaring.

It was the third round.

“Damn it. It’s just a few points more than Sebastian’s. That was so risky!” Hendrix couldn’t stop himself from shouting.

“Shh.” Madeline pressed her slender fingers against her lips.

“Let’s show our hands together in the remaining two rounds, Mr. Faraday.” Madeline threw her cards on the table.

“Ha—
ha! I’m dying of laughter. I guess she’s given up because she knows she’s lost ...”

“That’s it? I’m an insider. I can tell she has never been to a casino. I guess the game just now was pure luck.”

“Let’s just **say** if she wins, I’ll live stream myself eating shit.”

Everyone’s laughter was getting louder....

Chapter 39 Sebastian Took It To Heart

However, Sebastian’s brows suddenly furrowed tightly.

Sebastian looked at the cards on the table and realized every one of them was bigger than the

ones in his hand.

In other words, he experienced his first loss in life.

Madeline actually won.

“Win... You won?” Hendrix flopped on the table, confirming that Madeline had indeed won!

When they heard Hendrix, everyone turned to look at Hendrix..

Initially, they hadn’t intended to look, but when they saw Madeline’s trump card, they were all stunned.

“Did this woman win?”

“I heard someone say they’ll live stream themselves eating shit. Remember to add me. I’ll go check it out!” Hendrix gloated.

The large audience had not yet returned to reality.

Madeline stood up and said coldly, “You lost.”

In comparison, everyone’s surprise, Madeline was much calmer, as if everything was expected. Sebastian fixed his gaze on the cards. He had a lot of things he wanted to say, but only a hum came out of his mouth.

“Just give Hendrix the mansion.” She didn’t want to have any more contact with Sebastian.

“Did you beat me just to give Hendrix a gift?” Sebastian’s face was obscured by the light, and Madeline had no idea what expression he had on his face.

Madeline’s gaze met his, and Madeline’s eyes flickered. “Yeah, I confronted you just to give Mr. Smith a mansion.”

Madeline didn’t bother lying because there was no reason to.

“Madeline played cards with him to win him over, only to give the mansion to another man?” This logic went through Sebastian’s head several times before he finally understood.

He frowned deeply.

It was just a mansion. He didn’t care. He was only concerned about the woman in front of him.

“You can be honest with me. If you want it, you can give it to Hendrix...” Sebastian pursed his lips, inexplicable rage welling up inside him.

Hendrix thought, “Can you not treat me differently, Mr. Faraday?”

“Mr. Faraday, you must acknowledge defeat. I didn’t snatch it. The rules were agreed upon just now.” Madeline flicked her hair in front of her brows, looking impatient.

“It’s time for me to go to bed,” Madeline thought to herself.

Sebastian was in a bad mood. Madeline had never been so uninterested in him before, and she would never refer to him as “Mr. Faraday” as she did now.

“Could it be that he couldn’t get used to it because of the contrast between before and after the divorce? Indeed, habits are not a good thing,” Sebastian thought to himself.

“Well, a bet is a bet,” Sebastian said hoarsely.

The crowd was dumbfounded. They’d never seen Sebastian so submissive to anyone before.

“Is it because this woman is beautiful? No... Mr. Faraday has never been a superficial person,” the crowd wondered.

Since Sebastian admitted defeat, Madeline glanced at Hendrix and said, “Mr. Smith, we no longer owe each other anything. Goodbye.”

Madeline gracefully turned around and entered the elevator.

It was too late for Sebastian to take the same elevator as Madeline. He had to rush to the private elevator, and Hendrix took advantage of the opportunity to squeeze in as well.

Hendrix felt chills as soon as he walked in.

“Sebastian, I didn’t know you’d come to the casino today...” Hendrix swallowed.

“I wouldn’t have come if I had known Sebastian’s schedule. There’s no reason for me to pass up such a good opportunity to date my goddess and let Sebastian ruin it,” Hendrix reasoned to

himself.

“What does she mean by starting over with a clean slate?” Sebastian asked gloomily.

Hendrix and Madeline had more and more contact after their divorce, which made Sebastian very

uncomfortable.

“I just did her a small favor before,” Hendrix said in a perfunctory tone.

Just as Sebastian was about to ask another question, the elevator doors unexpectedly opened,

and Hendrix was the first to rush out.

Sebastian also took big strides quickly, fearful that Madeline would leave.

Madeline wore the helmet on her small head, revealing only a pair of foxlike eyes that were beautiful and quirky.

Sebastian’s blood boiled when he saw the Harley–Davidson motorcycle.

He was also a motorcycle enthusiast.

But... Madeline was just a little girl. He was already taken aback by the car race last time. Was it possible that she knew how to ride a motorcycle?

Sebastian took a step forward, surprised, and inquired, "Did you ride your motorcycle here,

Madeline?"

The corner of Madeline's lips twitched. "Mr. Faraday, you should mind your own business."

Sebastian was stunned for half a second.

"By fate, I'll see you again, but our fate... should have been over. Bye," Madeline smiled, leaned forward, and took off on her motorcycle.

"She thought you were a busybody," Hendrix said.

Sebastian's face darkened. "Do you have a death wish?"

"It wasn't me who said it," Hendrix muttered quietly.

2

Sebastian's face became even darker. He narrowed his eyes and gazed into the distance at the

afterimage.

He had the impression that he knew nothing about Madeline.

He thought he had married a virtuous wife at will.

He discovered that his self-proclaimed "virtuous wife" could race cars, slaughter him in a casino, and even... drive a motorcycle with ease after their divorce.

Sebastian's narrow eyes flickered slightly, and he found himself thinking about something else.

Perhaps he should get to know Madeline once more.

“Sebastian, where are you going?” Hendrix felt a little uneasy when he saw that Sebastian was about to leave.

“I’m going back to the company.” Sebastian had a plan now.

He needed to find a way to get in touch with Madeline.

“Would you mind taking me home first?” Hendrix looked pitifully at his friend. His car broke down, so he rode a shared motorcycle here.

Sebastian glanced at him. “I just gave you a mansion, and you’re asking me to take you home? Hendrix, are you out of your mind?”

Hendrix was bereft of words.

Sebastian turned and left.

He had truly abandoned him.

Hendrix remained where he was and waited for a taxi.

When night fell, only Sebastian’s office was illuminated in the entire building.

The Jennings Group currently cooperated with only the coastal area.

Sebastian put the mouse down, rubbed his brows, and walked over to the floor-to-ceiling window.

He lit a cigarette, and the scarlet flame flickered at his fingertips.

Sebastian smoked infrequently, but he did light one when he was irritable.

“How about giving me the development rights in the coastal area, Rowen?” Sebastian asked. “Sebastian, I won it after much struggle, and I’ve already agreed to work with the Jennings Group. That’s something I can’t do,” Rowen refused, even if Sebastian was his best friend.

Sebastian narrowed his eyes and said, “I’ll give you Aurous Coast that’s behind the Faraday Corporation.”

Aurous Coast was the most popular place in high society, with limitless potential. Many people were desperate to get a 1% stake, but the Faraday Corporation was so wealthy that no one could

compete.

Although the coastal area was valuable, it was not as valuable as one-tenth of the Aurous Coast.

Rowen was stunned and did not respond for a long time.

“You... Are you serious? You’re giving me Aurous Coast?” he inquired.

“Okay, Sebastian snorted lightly.

“Why are you doing this, Sebastian?” Rowen was perplexed. Even those who didn’t do business understood the value of Aurous Coast, and Sebastian was a shrewd businessman

Chapter 40 Birthday Party of Abraham.

Sebastian threw the cigarette butt on the ground and crushed it with his toes because it was about to burn his fingers.

“All you have to do is say yes or no,” he said.

“Of course, I must concur!” Rowen was concerned about the recent lack of good projects.

Abraham was also putting pressure on him. He would be defeated by his half-brother if he couldn’t accomplish anything.

Sebastian received a satisfactory response, hung up the phone, and tossed it on the table.

He would soon be able to see the ferocious little wildcat again.

Sebastian smiled, his deep eyes narrowing into slits.

This time... he would plan meticulously.

Madeline slept well that night. It was peaceful downstairs. No one dared to disturb her.

Sure enough, her previous actions had been effective, and the group of people had learned their lesson.

Madeline turned around and didn't see a single person, which was a little strange.

Madeline wrapped herself in her coat and asked lazily, "Dorothy, where have Queenie and her daughter been?"

Dorothy was stunned when she saw Ms. Madeline Jennings. "Ms. Madeline Jennings, today is Mr. Jennings's 80th birthday. Everyone in the Jennings family has gone to celebrate Mr. Jennings's birthday. Why are you still at home?"

"Grandpa's eightieth birthday?" Madeline's eyes flickered, and her heart sank.

Her grandfather had adored her since she was a child, but he had always disapproved of her marriage to Sebastian. She and her grandfather had a fallout over this matter, and she never returned to the Jennings manor after marrying.

She even forgot that today was her grandfather's eightieth birthday.

Madeline pursed her lips softly, and she almost felt like crying.

"The invitation letters have been sent, and Ms. Madeline Jennings' invitation letter was specially written and embossed in gold. I've placed it on the table over there for you," Dorothy whispered.

Madeline calmed down for a brief moment, and the corner of her lips slowly curled up into a smile. "Oh, it must have been destroyed by them..."

It must have been because they were afraid she would show up at her grandfather's party, which was all the more reason for her to go.

"What should we do now, Ms. Madeline Jennings? It'll take an hour for you to rush there, and you haven't prepared any gifts for Mr. Jennings." Dorothy panicked.

“It’s all right, Dorothy. I’ll go freshen up. I’ll leave the management of the man or to you today. If anyone does not listen to you, Dorothy, please take note of them, and I will deal with them when I return,” Madeline deliberately raised her chin and spoke loudly. She had just said that to some of the Jennings family parasites.

“Okay, Ms. Madeline Jennings.” Dorothy’s eyes welled up with tears. She was very pleased with the current Ms. Madeline Jennings.

In the Jennings estate, Abraham didn’t want to make a scene, so he only invited some close relatives and good friends of the Jennings family on such a big day.

Abraham sat in **his** seat with a lack of interest.

He looked around but saw no sign of his granddaughter. He appeared to be a little lonely.

Queenie nudged her daughter and said, “Go and please Abraham.”

Juliette straightened her hair and nodded. She listened to Queenie’s arrangement today and purposefully wore her hair long and straight. It was said that the elderly preferred well-mannered individuals.

“Grandpa,” Juliette called out sweetly.

Abraham glanced at her and snorted coldly.

“This is a gift I’ve prepared for you, Grandpa.” Juliette pulled out the tea set she had prepared. Elders at this age enjoyed drinking tea, so she prepared a gift that suited his tastes.

“How thoughtful of you,” Abraham said. However, he only took the cup out of courtesy and had no intention of opening it.

Juliette frowned and felt a little dissatisfied. It had been five years in a row... She had tried to please this old man, but he didn’t seem to care and always ignored her.

Juliette wanted to leave, but when she saw her mother’s expression, she sat down patiently.

As time passed, more and more people arrived. However, there was nothing to discuss other than how their business had been over the last two years, skin care, and so on.

All of a sudden, a small group of people began to discuss the Jennings family.

“I seem to recall someone named Madeline from the Jennings family. Why hasn’t she appeared in years?” A noblewoman looked around and noticed that there was only one girl near Abraham, who seemed perplexed.

“Haha, forget it. Ms. Madeline Jennings of the Jennings family has a peculiar demeanor. I heard she had a fallout with the Jennings family over a man, and she never returned to the Jennings manor again,” someone with knowledge of the situation explained in hushed tones.

“Yes, I’ve heard that as well. I’m not sure what’s wrong with the Jennings family’s Ms. Madeline Jennings’ preferences. I heard she has a thing for an old and ugly man.”

These rumors came from Juliette.

Gossip was a terrifying thing. Madeline’s image has plummeted as a result of these rumors.

Juliette couldn’t help curling her lips when she heard these rumors.

“Grandpa, don’t listen to their nonsense,” Juliette tried her best to restrain her smile and spoke sensibly.

Abraham was so enraged that his brows furrowed. “Shut up! Get out if you don’t want to attend the birthday party.”

Although Abraham was old, his voice was still loud.

He would never allow anyone to slander his granddaughter.

Everyone hurriedly stopped talking when they noticed Abraham was upset.

After all, Abraham was still in charge of the entire Jennings family.

They didn’t **dare** to offend him.

Juliette gritted her teeth as she watched Abraham continue to defend Madeline.

“Grandpa, everyone didn’t mean to say that. Perhaps my sister-” She was interrupted before she could finish her sentence.

“You, shut up as well. Your ability to say one thing and do another is getting out of hand.” Abraham scowled.

Abraham had already seen through Juliette a long time ago.

Juliette pouted, “Let’s stop talking about my sister, Grandpa. I’m going to give you a massage.”

She could only play dumb at this point. Queenie stated that as long as Abraham was pleased, the Jennings family’s property would be hers in the future.

Abraham closed his eyes and took a nap.

Madeline came in from the small garden.

Her favorite spot in the past was the small garden of the Jennings manor, where the peony was planted.

She and her mother also liked the peony the most.

That was because a peony was a rich and noble flower that was also very delicate.

It was a perfect match for her.

There were more people when she got to the front hall.

Madeline pursed her lips and looked nervous. She hadn’t returned in years...

Although she would have someone send a gift to her grandfather on his birthday every year, she was still disobedient. She had previously insisted on going her own way and harbored resentment toward her grandfather.

A familiar voice was heard before Madeline entered.

“Don’t put red flowers here. Change them to peony.”

“And here... It’s so messy. Clean it up.”

“The middle seat must be vacant. Nobody is allowed to sit on it.”

That seat was for Maddie.

Afterward, Abraham’s voice became lower and lower.

Madeline lowered her eyes, walked in, and said gently, “Grandpa.”

Abraham trembled and nearly lost his balance with his back to the door.

Juliette was close to Abraham, so she hurriedly held on to him.

wwwwww