## **SURPRISED 801**

Chapter 801 The Coincidence

Albert looked at him gently without rejecting or agreeing.

In fact, he had several concerns as Finnley hadn't returned home for years. As a father, he didn't want to bother his son once he returned home.

Besides, he had to make up their relationship. After all, Finnley was his son.

"Well, Pierre," Albert explained kindly with a smile, "I never forbid Finnley to date her. I cannot do anything to my son's choice for his own marriage. After all, he's free to love and marry his beloved woman in this era."

"Didn't we have an agreement? They have been engaged since they were born. I've thought they are a couple for over 20 years." Pierre frowned. "After your son has grown up, why can't you decide for him?" Albert sipped coffee in silence, realizing Pierre was unwilling to give up.

"Pierre, I don't want to force Finnley anymore. As long as he's happy, I'll be satisfied. That's my only wish."

"How coincident!" Pierre replied with a bitter smile, "My biggest wish is Eloise could be happy. She'll

only be happy after marrying Finnley."

Albert didn't respond any longer. Pierre could tell he had made up his mind and decided to convince

Albert's father instead.

After sipping the coffee, Pierre changed the topic. "Albert, let's not talk about their marriage first. You

cannot reject the cooperation. This project is excellent and will be a win-win cooperation for us. If you

have time, check it out."

Then he stood up with a smile. "Let me see if I can help them on the scene. Finnley will be home soon.

Why don't you take a rest."

Watching him leave, Albert chuckled.

'He's the guest, and I'm the host, but he asked me to rest and went to help?'

With a smile, he ignored the agreement on the table. After enjoying the coffee for a while, he checked

the time, thinking Finnley would be home soon.

This matter was the most challenging as the Russell and the Calder families had been close for years.

Meanwhile, in a black SUV, Mya opened her eyes dizzily and peeked out the window. "Where are we

now?" She didn't think her grandfather's house was that far.

"Where are we going?" The unknown review outside the window sobered her. "Dad, did you drive the wrong way?" She looked up at her father in the driver's seat.

Shirley answered with a smile, "Your grandfather's birthday banquet isn't held at home."

"What? In another person's house?" Mya was baffled. "He's turning 80. Many guests will attend it."

"Right. It's celebrated in another person's house," Shirley confirmed.

Mya quickly swallowed her mother's answer and asked, "Where are we heading for then? Dad has been driving for an hour. Why is it held in another person's house? Do we know him or her?"

"The host was your grandfather's colleague in the military," Shirley explained, holding Mya's hand,

"Your grandfather experienced life and death with his colleague when they were young. They were

born on the same day in the same year and had been colleagues for many years. After the war, they

promised to celebrate their 80-year-old birthdays together."

While Mya listened to her, tears welled up in her eyes. She felt excited to witness such a momentous occasion.

<sup>&</sup>quot;I guess Grandpa will cry today. His wish has come true."

Clarence chimed in, "Your grandfather is indeed sentimental. Whenever he talked about his past, he
shed tears."
"How's his colleague? Have you met before?" asked Mya.
"Never. This is my first time visiting his house, so you must go with us."
"How long will it take?" Mya peeked out of the window again. "We're out of Arkpool City, right?"
Chapter 802 Finnley Arrived Home
"Soon. The banquet is held in Jacksonville." Clarence didn't drive at high speed. "The landscape is
beautiful outside. You can enjoy it."
"Jacksonville?"
Mya buttoned her lip, leaning against the back of the seat. She couldn't help but think about Finnley's
grandfather.
She felt sorry. After all, she had promised Finnley, but her father insisted on taking her with them.
Morning.
A white Maybach entered the magnificent gate of Russell's Villa. Along a long tarmac, it headed to the
outdoor parking lot.

The yard was as big as in Finnley's memories. All the valuable plants were carefully taken care of.

Several cars were parked.

Servants and Maids were busy in the yard. The banquet hall had been decorated. The air was full of celebrating atmosphere.

In a room with an unlocked door, Pierre chatted with Benedict Russell, Finnley's grandfather.

"Eloise grew up with Finnley. They know each other well. They didn't need much time to fit each other

before getting married," Pierre started the topic purposely again with a smile.

Although Benedict had turned 80, he was healthy and clear in logic. "One day is like three years when

they are apart. Finnley hasn't returned home for years. Eloise should have become a stranger for him,"

he answered kindly without offending Pierre.

"Mr. Russell, I disagree." Pierre still tried to convince him. "Our families have been close for years, so

we know each other very well. If Eloise marries Finnley, our two families will upgrade."

"I heard Finnley had a girlfriend already." Benedict sipped some tea and asked, "Seen the news?"

When Pierre felt too embarrassed to answer, the white Maybach was pulled over in the yard.

The door was open. Finnley got down.



With those words, Benedict didn't wait for his grandson but entered the house happily.

Seemingly he had something important to talk to his friend about.

In the yard, Eloise held the hemline of her dress and trotted towards Finnley in high heels. With joy, she

yelled while panting, "Finnley! Finally, you are back! I've been waiting for you for three hours."

Claire was trotting behind her. She stopped mid-step and watched the scene in frustration as she was

slightly late. After rolling her eyes at Eloise, she turned around and went towards the house.

Eloise reached out to hold Finnley's arm shamelessly.

However, Finnley shook her hand off. "Stop it. I have a girlfriend." His voice was aloof and cold. Then

he strode towards the house.

Eloise could tell others' gazes on them. She didn't want to be disgraced, so the smile didn't fade off her

face. Following Finnley, she looked up at him and asked, "How long will you stay here this time? Will

you stay for a few days?"

Finnley even didn't have the mood to reply to her. He fastened his pace and entered the house

Chapter 803 Grandfather Wanted to Be a Matchmaker

"Good day, Master Finnley."





So did the servants in the room.

Suddenly, an idea came across Benedict's mind. He asked solemnly, "Archie, you have a granddaughter, right? Has she got married?"

"She's only 20. Single and available." Archie looked proud when mentioning Mya. "She has had a unique personality since childhood. She's smart and independent. My favorite little girl."

two doctor's degrees from a world-top university. Tall and handsome. Knowledgeable and talented."

In the living room, after Finnley talked to his parents in the Calders' presence, his expression eased slightly. "Where is Grandpa? I can't wait to see him."

"Will she come here today?" Benedict asked happily. "My grandson is back. He's outstanding, holding

"He's in the room over there." A servant showed him the way. He added, "The old Mr. Russell's colleague, Mr. Archie Powell, will also celebrate his birthday today. They were colleagues in the military and had experienced life and death. Coincidentally, they were born on the same day in the same year."

When he strode towards the door, Eloise followed him.

Then they overheard the two men's voices.
"You will like my grandson for sure," Benedict said while laughing, "Introduce your outstanding
granddaughter to him. Let's bring them together."
Finnley looked calm.
However, Eloise's face turned livid, and her breath became heavy. She had never expected Benedict to
do so.
Chapter 804 Eloise Panicked
Finnley knocked on the door. "Excuse me, Grandpa." He pushed the door open with a smile. "Happy
birthday."
Then his gaze fell on the other old man, and Finnley greeted him politely, "Happy birthday, mister."
Seeing him, the two old men stood up.
Finnley was grateful and respectful to Archie as he heard Archie used to take care of Benedict during
battles.
Although they discussed his marriage, he didn't feel as sickened as thinking about the Calder family.
"Finnley!"

Benedict was overjoyed, wearing a loving smile. "Long time no see. You are taller."

He hurriedly pulled Archie's hand and introduced Finnley, "Archie, this is my grandson, Finnley Russell.

Look. Isn't he outstanding? Does he fit your granddaughter?"

Finnley had handsome brows, intense eyes, and a straight nose bridge. He wore a handcrafted British

shirt. Standing in front of them, he humbly let the two old men look at him up and down.

Archie liked Finnley with a single glimpse. With a loving smile, he nodded to echo, "You are right,

Benedict. He's outstanding. I like him. It'll be wonderful if we can become in-laws."

Eloise couldn't stand it any longer. Without greeting the elders, she turned away angrily and didn't care

how Finnley would respond.

"Mr. Powell," Finnley said politely and gently, "I have a girlfriend now. Thank you, though."

"What?" Archie was taken aback. His gaze swept between Finnley and Benedict. "Didn't you tell me

Finnley was single and available?" He was disappointed.

Benedict hurriedly explained, "He is." Then he strode up to Finnley, pulled his hand, and blamed him, "I

know it's an excuse for you to reject the Calders. Why are you lying to me?"

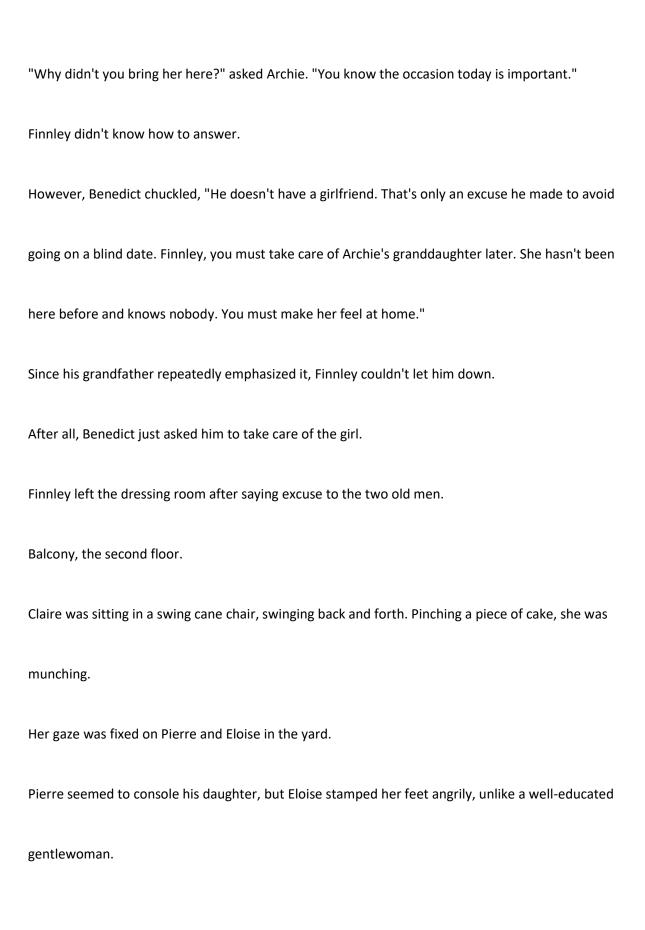
"Grandpa, I..."



Meanwhile, Eloise rushed into the yard and complained to her father angrily, "Dad, how could the old Mr. Russell do this to me? He wanted to bring Finnley together with Mr. Powell's granddaughter. They were talking about Finnley's marriage." Pierre was startled. "Really?" "Of course! I overheard it personally." Eloise stamped in anger. "What should I do, Dad?" "What did Finnley respond?" asked her father. Pouting in a grievance, Eloise said, "I didn't continue listening, so I didn't know." "He'll definitely reject them." Pierre patted her shoulder gently and consoled her, "Eloise, you are such an outstanding girl, but Finnley is picky. How could he fall in love with a girl who he hasn't met in person yet?" "Dad..." Eloise was worried. "Would his grandfather force him?" "It wouldn't work. He'll be the one who decides his own marriage. The elders won't be able to interfere." However, Eloise always thought her fiance would be stolen. She felt frustrated as every woman wanted to take Finnley away from her. She found it too dangerous.

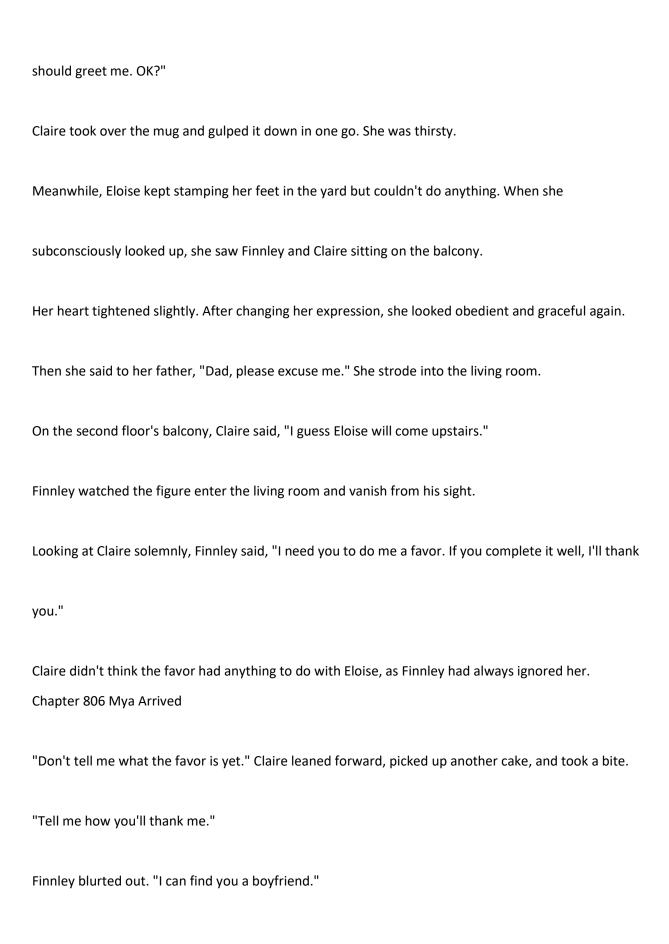
Meanwhile, in a black SUV heading for Russell's Villa, Clarence was driving.

Sitting in the backseat, Shirley held Mya's hand while telling her the stories of her grandfather fighting in battles... They would arrive at Russell's Villa in Jacksonville in about five minutes. Chapter 805 Do Me a Favor The stylists were shaving for the two old men in the dressing room. Suddenly, one servant entered with two long boxes. "Here you go, Master Finnley." Finnley took them from his hands. The servant left. "Grandpa, these are two golf clubs customized in Andrew Dickson. One for you and the other for Mr. Powell," said Finnley, "The date when you met Mr. Powell has been carved on them." "Thank you, Finnley." Benedict praised while smiling joyfully, "My grandson is always considerate. He knows what my favorite gift is." Benedict liked working out, and playing golf was his favorite sport. Suddenly, Archie said, "Thank you, Finnley. Actually, I like you. I hope you can date my granddaughter. She's a lovely girl. You'll like her." Finnley refused gently, "I'm sorry, Mr. Powell. I have a loved girl, and I'll marry her in the future."



Suddenly, Claire heard footsteps behind. She was slightly taken aback but didn't look back as she had figured out who it was. Finnley walked towards her and found her as expected. He sat opposite Claire and noticed the smile on her lips. Following her gaze, he also saw the scene in the yard. Eloise panicked like a cat on hot bricks. Pulling her hand, Pierre patted her shoulder gently while consoling her. Finnley withdrew his gaze shortly after and stared at Claire. "Are you mad?" "Why should I be mad?" Claire didn't withdraw her gaze. She complained, "I'm not as tall as her. Of course, I couldn't run as faster as she did." Her gaze shifted from the yard to Finnley. "You are sitting opposite me now. Why is she so complacent? Will you actively talk to her? Humph!" "You are so jealous," Finnley mocked her. Claire rolled her eyes. "Nah. I'm not. I just dislike her."

"So, if she runs fast," Finnley poured a cup of coffee and said, "You cannot turn away immediately. You



"Puff!"
"Claire, Grandpa wants to be a matchmaker again." Finnley heaved a sigh and said helplessly, "Mr.
Powell has a granddaughter. Grandpa wants me to receive her later. I'll let you take care of her. I need
to work overtime in the study and won't go out."
Claire was amused, almost failing to hold her laughter back.
However, Finnley added seriously, "You must be with her. No matter what the two elders tell her, you
cannot let her become interested in me. Also, you must make her feel at home. Have fun!"
Before Claire agreed, they heard the click-clack sounds of high heels. Eloise soon appeared in front of
them.
Wearing a smile on her face with delicate makeup, she said, "Oh, you guys are here." She sounded
relaxed, as if nothing had happened.
Seeing a cane chair in front, she sat down without being invited and saw the desserts on the plate. "It's
cheesecake, your baker's special dessert, right? I also like it the most."
Neither Finley nor Claire replied.



military. How dare he wants to unite the two families by marriage!'

longer. Instead, she felt choked.

Sitting in the cane chair, Eloise ate the cheesecake without a stop. However, it wasn't her favorite any

The two old men walked to the door with their walking sticks when Finnley and Claire went downstairs.

"They're here. That's my son-in-law's car." Archie recognized the car with a single glimpse as he had sharp sight.

Finnley was so shocked that he turned around and strode upstairs, heading for the study.

When Claire looked back, Finnley had vanished in the corner.

In the black SUV in the yard, Mya looked at the colossal place outside and the gorgeous house nearby.

"They are indeed wealthy. They can hold a soccer match in the yard," she sighed.

"The Russell family in Jacksonville is influential," Clarence remarked. He didn't overthink as he followed

the GPS to arrive.

However, Shirley was taken aback. "The Russell family?" Leaning forward, she approached her

husband. "Is Finnley Russell from this family?" They checked Finnley's background before.

Clarence was startled. "Finnley Russell is rich, but his family shouldn't be so influential. Jacksonville is too big. How could there only be one Russell family?"

However, Mya overheard them talking. Furrowing her brows, she asked unhappily, "Did you check

Finnley behind my back?"

Chapter 807 Coincidence

When the SUV was pulled over, a servant walked up to them.

While unbuckling the seat belt, Clarence explained, "We didn't check him but wished to know him more. We love you, Mya, so we don't expect anyone to hurt our little girl. Don't be mad, Mya. We've agreed to let you be together, haven't we?"

However, Mya felt upset, thinking they had gone too far to check Finnley behind her back.

It showed her parents didn't trust Finnley. She couldn't accept them suspecting such an excellent man like Finnley.

"All right. All right." Shirley could tell how she felt. Holding Mya's hand, she consoled Mya, "Don't be mad. We'll get down soon. It's not your father's fault. I insisted on asking him to check Finnley. I was worried you would be hurt. What if he had got married in his hometown but pretended to be single in



introduced proudly, "This is my daughter, Shirley Powell. This is my granddaughter, Mya Saunders.
She's 20."
"Good day, Mr. Russell," the Saunders couple greeted Benedict. "Dad, you look great today. You both
look spirited."
Mya bowed at Benedict and Archie politely. "Good day, Grandpa. Nice to meet you, Mr. Russell." Her
voice was sweet and pleasant to the ear.
"You look in your seventies, Grandpa."
After they greeted each other, they walked towards the living room while chatting.
At the door, Claire gazed at Mya and almost stopped breathing.
She didn't expect Mya to appear, as she had recognized Mya was Finnley's girlfriend.
Although Claire had never met her in person, she had seen Mya's photo in the news.
How coincident!
Claire seemed to be glued to the spot. Suddenly, she returned to her senses. She couldn't accept
Finnley's official girlfriend to dress so simply as Mya only wore a light-yellow dress.



"Mya, why didn't you come back home with Finnley?" Claire blinked at her curiously. "Did you want to wow him?" Before Mya answered, she added, "You know what? Your arrival has horrified him." Chapter 808 Claire's Worry and Help Mya returned to her senses and asked, "Where is Finnley? Has he returned?" "Mya, find a dress and put it on. I'll put on makeup for you." Claire didn't answer her. She said bluntly, "Eloise has dressed up in an evening dress. You are my brother's girlfriend. How could you have only worn a simple dress?" She was worried about Mya. Looking at Mya up and down, Claire was disappointed. "No, thanks, Claire. I like it this way." Mya looked down at her dress but didn't have the mood to get changed. "Tell me. Where is your brother?" "Only if you dress up." Claire blocked the door, holding her arms across her chest and raising her chin. "If you cannot win against Eloise in dress, I won't let you leave this room." She sounded overbearing.

Mya felt a slight migraine, realizing her future sister-in-law was too aggressive.







some reporters will come over as well."
Mya wondered if Claire had grudges against Eloise.
"Why are you laughing?" Claire was confused.
Mya said, "I've won Finnley's heart. I don't mind letting her steal the show."  Chapter 809 Trust Me
Claire was amused. "This is Russell's Villa instead of the Calder's. I will never let her steal the show."
Soon, the maids found the Bohemian dress, according to the photo. "This is it, right, Lady Claire?"
"Exactly!"
Claire prompted, "Mya, hurry. Get changed." Mya took over the dress from a maid and thanked her
before entering the dressing room.
With a bright smile, Claire waited in the cloakroom in a good mood.
Other maids prepared high heels, a suit jacket, and some accessories. One also brought Claire's
makeup box.
Claire majored in aesthetics at college, so she was adept at makeup, styling, and design. She was a
girl on top of fashion.

Besides, she used to be an advertising model. That was why she had so many dresses.

Shortly after, Mya walked out with the dress. The Bohemian dress seemed to be made for her as it fit

"How stunning!" Claire trotted to her. "Hurry. Look into the mirror."

Mya turned around and checked on herself in the mirror with a leisurely smile. Then she asked, "I've put on the dress. Where is Finnley?"

Claire was slightly taken aback. Then she complained, "You are so boring! We must win against Eloise with our auras today."

"Are you using me, Ms. Russell?" Mya asked bluntly, "Do you have grudges against Eloise Calder?"

The two girls looked into each other's eyes. Claire had to compromise. Squeezing a smile, she

explained, "A deal, OK? Be obedient. I'll help you put on makeup. Then I'll take you to see Finnley later.

You have my word. Trust me."

her perfectly.

As she spoke, she pulled Mya to sit in an armchair.

"My dear sister-in-law, Eloise wants to steal Finnley from you. She's your sworn enemy," Claire chuckled, "I'm on your side."

Before Mya spoke again, she added, "By the way, do you know what Finnley told me earlier? Why didn't he receive you at the gate?"

"Why?" Mya looked at her with interest.

Claire answered, "He didn't know the girl would be you. When he sent the birthday gifts to my grandfather and Mr. Powell, he overheard them talking about bringing you two together. Your grandfather suggested introducing you to Finnley, and my grandfather agreed. They took the initiative to mention it. Finnley was scared shitless."

Mya was taken aback. "Is Finnley so attractive? He has to dodge girls."

"Ha ha ha... Sort of," Claire continued, "Then my grandfather ordered him to accompany you today and make you feel at home. However, Finnley let me help him do it."

Mya was amused and laughed. "He was so scared that he turned off his phone?"

"Mmm hmm." Claire suggested, "Let's give him a shock later."

Mya was intrigued by such a plan, expecting Claire to finish the makeup ASAP.

"Did Eloise Calder stay here last night?" Mya asked suddenly.

Claire, however, thought she had understood some implications of her question. "TSK. TSK. TSK. Are
you jealous, Mya?"
"I'm just asking."
"No, she didn't. Her house is nearby ours. Why would she have stayed here overnight?" Claire
complained, "She arrived here early this morning, waiting for Finnley to come home excitedly.
Unfortunately, Finnley ignored her all the time."
"She truly loves your brother," Mya remarked and didn't feel Eloise was a threat.
"Who knows? I don't like her. She's too willful," Claire remarked bluntly. She was too talkative. "She's
pretty, but her face is too sickening."
Mya could tell she did have some grudges against Eloise. Chapter 810 How Could She Do That
A while later, Mya asked, "Claire, do your parents know me? What did they say about me?"
She and Finnley were in the news, so she guessed Finnley's parents must have seen it.
"Not my parents," Claire explained with a smile, "My father is the younger brother of Finnley's father.
We are actually cousins."

Mya recalled that Finnley had mentioned it to her once.

"My parents passed away in a car accident when I was five." Claire didn't look upset while telling her as she had let go of the sorrow. "Since then, I have stayed in Finnley's home."

Mya looked at her smiling face in the mirror. "I'm sorry." She seemed to see the deeply hidden sorrow in Claire's heart.

"It's alright." Claire combed her hair. "Uncle Albert and Aunt Violet have become more open-minded these years. In the past, they did hope Finnley to marry Eloise. After all, the Russell and the Calder families were friends for almost a century, and we know each other well."

"However, Finnley is strongly against it. He has run away from home and would rather work for another person than take over our family's company. His parents love and care about him. Therefore, they changed their mind and said that as long as Finnley would be happy, they could let him decide his own marriage."

"By the way," Claire added, "Finnley has never had a girlfriend before you. He was always a straight-A student. At school, only he worked hard in his favorite fields without sparing a second to pay attention to any girls. If Finnley isn't romantic as you expected, it will only mean he's not a scumbag, at least. He

doesn't have any experience in pleasing a girl. Please don't get mad at him."

Her words reminded Mya of the moments when she was with Finnley. "He's a neat freak. He's annoyed as girls will lose hair. I can tell why he never had a girlfriend before."

"I agree. He is a neat freak." Claire giggled. "How did you guys meet and become lovers? You must tell me details some other day."

Looking at her reflection in the mirror, Mya could tell Claire was always smiling while chatting. Claire seemed to be a worry-free, optimistic girl.

"In fact, Finnley is romantic," Mya praised.

"You know what? After seeing the news that day, I couldn't believe my eyes," Claire said, "I wondered how excellent the girl was to become Finnley's girlfriend. Later, when I heard him mention you on the phone, I could tell you were a perfect match."

At the cloakroom door, Eloise had been standing for a long while. Claire's words annoyed her.

'Claire Russell! How could you do this to me?'

Eloise at the cloakroom in anger. Mya had put on a beautiful dress, and Claire put on makeup for her

personally. Eloise guessed Mya would probably become the pretties one at the banquet. The reporters would come to the villa in the afternoon. Eloise was unwilling to let another woman steal the show. She realized, mostly importantly, she must stop Finnley from knowing Mya had come to his house. Evidently, Finnley hadn't known Mya was Archie's granddaughter. Claire tried to help Mya surprise him. Thinking of that, Eloise held the hemline of her dress and trotted away. "Excuse me. Where is Finnley?" "Good day, Ms. Calder. Sorry, but I don't know." "Hi, do you know where Finnley is?" "Hello, Ms. Calder. Sorry, but I have no idea." The servant shook his head. Eloise didn't give up. She checked the parking lot and saw Finnley's car. "Excuse me. Have you seen Finnley?" "No, I haven't, Ms. Calder." Eloise had even made an excuse to send Finnley away so he wouldn't meet Mya. Unfortunately, she failed to find him. She panicked.