

The Epic BD 231

Chapter 231 I Never Told Him

Ivy said, "Yes, all the workers at the construction site had signed the confidential agreements. The hospital is strict with patient information. How did the media find out about it?"

Dexter walked out of the study and saw that rain was hammering down. He ordered sternly, "Investigate all the workers involved."

"I've already investigated them before you answered my call. There's nothing wrong with them. Mr. Russell... Please forgive me for asking. Did you tell anyone about this matter?" Ivy asked tentatively.

Dexter looked at Josie's tightly shut door and could not hear any noise from the room. All he heard was the splattering sound of rain.

"It's not her."

Ivy could not help raising her voice. This matter is severe. Reporters are now blocking Russell Group's entrance. It will be detrimental to the company's reputation unless we find the source of the leak.

Dexter closed his eyes briefly.

"Wait for a while, Dexter said and hung up.

He pushed open the door and saw Josie sitting before the window with a dazed expression. One could only wonder what she thought as she looked at the heavy rain. It was cold, but she only wore a thin sleeping gown. The sight of her like this broke his heart.

She did not turn around even as she heard noises. She seemed as if she had lost all hope.

"Don't go to the company today. You should stay here and rest, Dexter said, holding the doorknob. His face was devoid of emotion.

Josie remained silent. However, she suddenly spoke as he turned around to leave. "I want to see Laura.

Despite their conflicts, Josie felt she should thank Laura for saving her life.

Dexter replied without turning around, "I'll get someone to message you the hospital she is staying in."

Silence followed.

Dexter walked a few steps before pausing. "You were with Arnold on the night of the construction accident. Did you tell him about the accident?"

Josie finally showed some reaction. She looked at him blankly and answered, "I never told him."

Hearing her answer, Dexter did not ask any more questions but left the villa. He started his car and drove

away.

Josie remained dazed for some time before getting up. She washed up and turned on her phone to find the message about Laura's hospital. It was the one her father stayed in.

Then, she called a taxi and went to the shop before the hospital to get some fruit. The TV at the shop showed the news. Many reporters crowded around Dexter and pointed their microphones at him, but he

remained calm despite the chaos.

“Mr. Russell, your project in Sylmark recently suffered a case of casualty. Was it due to Russell Group’s negligence?”

“Mr. Russell, can you explain what caused the accident?”

Dexter appeared calm as he faced the camera. “We are cooperating with the police investigation to find out the cause of the accident. Meanwhile, we have properly compensated the victim’s family. At the moment, there is no indication that Russell Group has been negligent in this project. We will share the findings with the public once the investigation is concluded.”

“Please be patient.”

Dexter left after saying that. His bodyguards immediately blocked the reporters from getting close to him.

“Miss, why are you standing there? Are you going to take it or not?” The shopkeeper handed Josie a bag of fruits.

Josie finally came to her senses.

Laura caught a cold after tripping into the pool and suffered shock from the incident. Therefore, the doctor recommended that she stay in the hospital for observations. As a wealthy lady, Laura received top- notch service in the VIP ward. She spent her time playing video games and had steaks for her meals.

Matthew stopped Josie and asked, “Are you her friend?”

Josie was confused by his question. “Is... Is she a difficult patient?”

Matthew nodded. “I heard from the nurses that she chased out anyone who came to see her. She even threw the things her visitors brought out of the window and hurt a passerby. Luckily, the injury was minor. She compensated them twenty thousand without any concern.”

Chapter 232 Indebted to Her

Josie rolled her eyes. That’s indeed the Laura I know...

However, she did not want Matthew to worry. “I’ll be fine. I’m only meeting her for a while.”

Laura was engrossed in playing a game on her phone and moved her body as she controlled her game. avatar. She did not notice Josie coming in. Seeing her in the middle of a game, Josie sat at the side and waited for her to finish her round.

Laura suddenly looked up and noticed Josie. She widened her eyes and shouted fiercely, “Why are you here!”

Josie appeared amicable. “I came here to see you, and thank you for saving me yesterday.”

Her words infuriated Laura, causing her expression to darken further. "Get out."

However, Josie stayed in her seat. "I know you despise me, but I still want to thank you for saving me. I don't dare to think what would happen if you didn't show up.",

Those words further aggravated Laura's mood. She threw her phone onto her bed and replied furiously, "I don't need your fake gratitude. Get out of my sight before I call my bodyguards."

"Your bodyguards aren't at the door. I wouldn't have been able to come in if they were there," Josie responded calmly.

Laura finally realized her bodyguards had left without her realizing. It made her even more anxious. I've said clearly enough. I don't need your fake gratitude, and I despise you. I would have helped anyone in that situation. So, leave and stop making me feel nauseous,"

Laura looked pretty even when she was furious. Josie was used to her arrogance and was not bothered by the hatred on Laura's face.

"That means you're a good person. It's hard to find a kind and wealthy lady these days."

Josie was like a saint. No words could provoke her.

Her unaffectedness infuriated Laura so much that she was on the verge of losing her mind. She felt an intense urge to strangle Josie. "Why would I want to be kind to you? Stop pretending to be nice to me. I saved you, but that doesn't mean I accept you as Dexter's wife. You should know your place."

However, Josie pretended not to hear her and helped herself to the fruits in the basket. "Do you want a banana?"

Laura gave up entirely and sat slumped on the bed. "You disgust me. Get out."

Josie slowly peeled a banana and said, "Ms. Brandel, I won't forget your kindness. Let me know if you need help, and I will try my best to assist you."

Then, she placed the banana on the table and continued. "You might think my promise is not worth much. Still, you can give me a chance when your situation requires it." Josie blinked and added, "Of course, my offer doesn't include divorcing Dexter."

Josie left and closed the door. In her fury, Laura threw a pillow at the door and yelled. "I should never have saved you!"

Laura was an illegitimate daughter. Her father brought her and her mother to Brandel Residence shortly after his wife died. Laura was already ten years old then. Everyone in Wavery knew she was born out of wedlock.

Josie investigated Laura before going to see her.

She believed Laura likely did not have it easy with such a background. Therefore, Josie considered and decided to promise her a favor. She thought she would soon be able to repay Laura for saving her.

Josie was in a rush and did not go to visit her father. She hailed a taxi and headed to Carter Group. The receptionist made her wait in the lobby. Josie pulled out her phone and called Arnold straight away. "What are you doing?"

Arnold was surprised but was happy to hear her voice. "Why? I heard Russell Group's party was a success. Are you interested in organizing one for Carter Group?"

Josie controlled her anger. "Where are you?"

Arnold paused briefly before answering. "I'm in the gym on the Carter Group's thirtieth floor."

Josie headed there straightaway. None of the staff tried to stop her again.

Chapter 233 It Wasn't Him

The gym was empty. Josie instantly found Arnold running on a treadmill as he was at a very eye-catching spot. He was shirtless, revealing his firm muscles and athletic figure for all to see.

Josie took a deep breath and went to him, pressing a button to stop the treadmill.

Arnold finally stopped running. He panted and turned to her. "Are you taking out your anger on me? Did Dexter anger you again?"

Josie looked at him sternly. Her eyes burned with fury.

However, Arnold found her adorable and laughed. He reached out to pinch her cheek, but she stopped him. "What's wrong with you?"

He had just finished exercising. His eyes were bright, and the air was thick with his pheromone.

"Did you deliberately arrange for us to have a walk that night?"

Arnold sluggishly withdrew his hand and replied. "I don't understand what you're saying."

"Arnold!" Josie nearly lost her temper. "You keep using me to achieve your goals. Does it make you feel accomplished? Can you leave me alone?"

His smile gradually faded. He grabbed a towel and wiped the sweat on his neck.

"You think I did it?"

"I haven't said anything, but you knew what I meant. It has to be you." Josie felt his response confirmed that it was he who revealed the information.

A woman entered the gym. Josie had seen her before. Her name was Lillian. She came to Arnold and gave him a bottle of water.

Arnold leaned back and gulped a few mouthfuls of water before answering, "Russell Group is popular, so it's normal that everyone knows about the construction site accident once the news broke out. It would be more surprising if I didn't know anything."

Josie looked up at him. "Are you telling me it was only a coincidence that we were together that night?"

"To be more accurate, I was with her. Arnold pointed at Lillian. Lillian flinched and seemed afraid of him.

Josie did not respond, but she was sure that Arnold was the culprit.

Arnold placed his hands on the treadmill and looked into her eyes. "Anyway, why would I want to expose the information?"

"Your project in Rivodia also had an accident involving your worker. Furthermore, Carter Group and Russell Group are rivals," Josie spoke fast but was calm.

Arnold smiled at her. His eyes crinkled with mirth. "I get it. Dexter must have suspected you and given you trouble. That's why you suspect me, right?"

Josie felt the confrontation was getting out of her control, but she could not stop. "I believe my suspicion is justified"

"Even though he accused you without basis?"

Josie was briefly speechless before retorting. "That's none of your business"

"Josie, you might think I'm lying" Arnold sighed and appeared helpless. "However, I have nothing to do with this matter."

"It has nothing to do with you?" Josie raised her tone. "You have better not be involved."

After saying that, she turned on her phone and showed Arnold the screen as she blocked his contact. "Since you're not involved, let's not see each other again to avoid unnecessary troubles"

She knew she had to protect herself and guard her identity. She could afford to divorce, at least for now.

Therefore, she needed to avoid provoking Dexter. To achieve that, she had to cut off all contact with Arnold.

Arnold's gaze darkened. He looked at the faint bruise on her neck and asked, "Did he hit you?"

Josie frowned slightly and realized he was talking about the bruise Bleu had caused. "No"

She turned around to leave, but Arnold grabbed her arm. "I asked you a question! Did he hit you?"

Arnold gripped her arm tightly. His usually easygoing expression turned stern.

"I've told you. He didn't!"

Chapter 234 Hereditary Mental Disorder

Josie was powerless to fight back.

Arnold dragged her to his office and would not let her go, no matter how hard she struggled.

He made Josie sit down. Then, he took out an ointment and applied it to her bruise. There was a hint of concern beneath the fury in his eyes..

Josie felt awkward. "I'm telling the truth. It wasn't Dexter."

It was hard to tell what Arnold was thinking. He snorted and asked, "Is there anything he won't do?"

Josie stopped trying to explain.

She sat straight and replied, "Arnold, being nice to me now won't make me forgive you."

She sounded so childish that Arnold could not help but laugh. He leaned closer to her and asked, "Tell me. What have I done wrong that requires your forgiveness?"

Josie had a lot to say. However, before she could say anything, she could not help but realize he was right. He had not done anything wrong that required her forgiveness.

She fell silent with frustration. The emotions she had suppressed for the past two days finally burst out.

"I'm an insignificant blade of grass to you and Dexter. All I want is to live, yet you and Dexter keep forcing me to do your bidding. If I don't do them well, you will kill me. How is this fair?" Josie's eyes welled up with tears. She looked up and felt unbearable tightness in her chest. I only wish to live."

Arnold could not bear seeing her like this. He placed his hand on her head, comforting her gently. "No one wants to kill you."

"But you and Dexter are pushing me to the brink!" Josie could not stand it anymore. "You and Dexter are always scheming against each other, and I'm stuck in between, bearing the brunt from both sides. Arnold, can you please let me go?"

Josie watched Arnold's expression darken. He did not respond, but she knew his answer, prompting her to

shudder in fear.

"Please release me. Perhaps I should never have come here. I was too rash."

She stood up, but Arnold pressed her back into her seat. "I promise I will keep you and your family safe. If Dexter tries to kill you, you can come to me for help. Josie, I will never hurt you."

He seemed so serious and sincere that Josie was confused.

Arnold released his grip and stood before the floor-to-ceiling window. He lit a cigarette and said. "Dexter's mother had psychosis. It could be hereditary."

The revelation struck Josie like lightning and stunned her to her spot. She asked in disbelief, "What?"

"During one of her severe psychotic episodes, she beat Dexter so severely that he had to be hospitalized."

Arnold explained calmly, but Josie could not stop her heart from beating violently. She did not expect there to be such a tragic backstory. No wonder Arnold reacted so agitatedly when he saw her bruise.

"That's impossible... Dexter never hit me. I've been with him for a long time, and he has never been violent."

"Are you sure about that?"

Josie was stunned. She thought carefully and recalled the accident from that day. Does the time he crashes his car into someone else's count?

Arnold flicked the cigarette ashes into the ashtray and continued. "He is genetically predisposed to psychosis and grew up in such a violent environment. How can he not be affected?"

Josic, you don't know Dexter well."

Josie sat still and did not move for a long time. She had no idea how she should process this revelation. All she knew was that her emotions were a mess. She was afraid but felt sad for him most of all.

Did Dexter grow up in that kind of environment? Suddenly, Josie understood why he always seemed hostile. and grim.

Before she left, Arnold added, "Remember what I told you just now. You can come to me for help any time."

Chapter 235 Don't Do It Again

Russell Group's public relation department suppressed the news about the accident on the construction site.

The company spent a lot of money to appease the victim's family. At the same time, investigations were still ongoing.

Josie was absent from work for two days. Fortunately, the company was not busy during this period. Moreover, everyone empathized with what happened to her during the company party. Therefore, no one criticized her.

Josie wanted peace, so she stayed in the villa and did not return to Mason Garden. Dexter did not object. and stayed with her. They slept in different rooms. Although they were not close, they still got along quite well.

Dexter went for a run alone in the early morning. Most house owners in this area were prominent figures in their fields. They smiled and greeted Dexter whenever they met. "Good morning, Mr. Russell."

Dexter smiled in response to their greeting. He wore a black jacket and a Sports watch on his morning run. He ran on the dew-covered paths before taking the same way back to the villa.

Josie was still asleep at this hour. He thought about this and ran faster.

Then, he entered the house through the back gate. There was no one around. He walked past the yard and looked at the pond. There were about a dozen colorful carp in the pond. The water lilies were still withering in this season. Their dry leaves fluttered in the wind, hiding ripe tubers that would grow into new flowers in spring.

Dexter turned on the tap, allowing crystal-clear water to gush out from it. The pipes were connected to a mountain spring. The water had no trace of pollutants and was safe to drink.

Dexter splashed the water on his face and felt refreshed.

Then, he opened the bedroom door and saw Josie still asleep.

He quietly went to the kitchen to make breakfast. He had to be self-sufficient since there were no servants

in this villa.

He received two calls this morning. The first call was from Ivy to give him a report on the latest development. Her voice sounded a little hoarse. She had probably worked through the night.

"Ivy," Dexter said while pouring a glass of milk.

Ivy answered nervously, "Yes, Mr. Russell."

Ivy knew something was wrong. She raised her voice in protest. "Mr. Russell, have I done something wrong?"

"What do you think?"

Ivy had worked for Dexter for a long time and understood what he implied. She bit her lip and remained silent for a long time before saying, "I understand..."

"This is your final chance. You are to resign if you do this again."

He did not bother to spare her dignity. His every word was imbued with threat and left her suffocating.

The second call came from Josie's phone when he returned to the bedroom. He glanced at the screen and saw it was a call from someone named 'Matt'

Dexter squinted and picked up the call immediately. He glanced at Josie from the corner of his eye and saw she was still asleep.

Jo Jo Matthew sounded drunk.

Dexter pinched his brow and replied coldly. "Dr. Sander."

'Click' Matthew hung up immediately.

Dexter licked the corner of his lips and looked annoyed.

He deleted the call log and placed the phone back in its place. Then, he went to the bathroom to take a bath. Josie was awake when he came out of the bathroom. She sat on the bed with her feet bare and placed one foot on the quilt..

"What's wrong?" Dexter approached her and placed a hand on her forehead.

Josie frowned and observed his gentleness with her. She could not sleep well since Arnold told her about Dexter's situation.

It was hard to imagine that he suffered severe lashings in his childhood.

"What happened to your eyes?" Dexter looked closely at her swollen eyes and wondered if mosquitoes had bitten her.

They throbbed under his gaze. Josie's right eyelid throbbed ever since she returned from meeting Arnold, making her feel even more frustrated than she already was.

Chapter 236 Who Told You

Dexter got up to find a hot compress for her eyes.

Josie rubbed her eyes and rolled to the other side of the bed to find her phone. She wanted to call Matthew as she was worried that something would happen.

However, Dexter had already returned. He sat on the bed and patted her head. "Get up. Let me check your

eyes.

Josie had no choice but to let him touch her. Strangely, her fear disappeared.

The weather was good that day. She went out to the yard in her pajamas and messy hair and sat there to get some sunlight. She watched the warm sunlight shining on the white walls.

Dexter had left his black jacket on the bench. Josie picked it up and covered herself with it to stay warm.

As a student, she loved wearing her male classmates' jackets. They always felt warmer than her own

After a while, Dexter came and urged her to wash up. He planned to bring her to see Laura and thank her for saving her that night.

Josie knew the visit would be different this time as he was going with her.

She was surprised to discover that Laura had been discharged. Moreover, her house was nearby. Although her home was slightly smaller, it had an antique architectural style.

It was nearly noon, but Laura was still sleeping.

Her father showed them a doctor's certificate, stating that Laura had a slight concussion and needed to recuperate in peace.

Josie felt remorseful. "Mr. Brandel, it's my fault. If not for me, Laura wouldn't have gotten injured.*

Dexter placed his hand on her back. "It's not your fault."

Mr. Brandel looked at them cryptically before agreeing solemnly. "That's right. It's not your fault. Laura is doing okay. The doctor said she would recover with some rest. If anyone is to blame, it's that scoundrel!"

Then, he frowned and added, "What about you? Did you get hurt?"

Josie shook her head.

"Don't worry. Dexter will punish him for what he has done. You are now a Russell. He can never hope to remain in Wavery after what he had done to you!"

Mr. Brandel seemed to imply something.

Dexter's eyes flashed briefly with anger upon hearing him. However, when talking to Josie, he softened his tone. "You should go in to see Laura. I will stay here and chat with Mr. Brandel"

There was a pavilion nearby. Dexter watched Josie until she walked out of sight before turning to the older man with a shallow smile. "Please lead the way"

The servants immediately served food and drinks at the pavilion. Mr. Brandel sipped tea and said, "Dexter, I was surprised to see you beat up that man at the party."

Dexter appeared emotionless and clasped his hands before him. At the same time, he observed the window to Laura's room.

"After all, it involved Mrs. Russell."

Dexter promised calmly, "Laura saved my wife. I will make sure to repay this favor."

Meanwhile, Josie sat in a chair in Laura's room, waiting for her to wake up.

She sank into deep thoughts whenever she was alone. Her eyes turned dazed.

She knew Laura was awake but pretended to be asleep to avoid talking to her. Thus, she said. "Stop pretending. Isn't it tiring?"

Laura did not respond. As expected, a person feigning sleep would never admit to being awake.

"Laura. I have a question. Do you know what kind of person Dexter's mother was?" Josie had been thinking about this recently. Initially, she wanted to ask Dexter, but on further consideration, she felt it was better

not to.

Although Laura was an illegitimate daughter, she was still a daughter of the Brandel family, so she should know something.

As expected. Laura jumped up from her bed and stared at Josie. "Why do you suddenly ask this? Who told you about it?"

Josie observed her reaction and guessed, "Was she psychotic?"

Laura narrowed her eyes mysteriously. "Did Mr. Russell tell you about her?"

Chapter 237 Let's Plant a Tree

The matter seemed to be a secret.

Josie saw Laura's reaction and confirmed Arnold did not lie to her. "It's true then."

Laura appeared awkward. She got off the bed and stood on her bare feet. "It's all in the past." She paused. briefly before continuing. "Don't mention this to him. It's his sore spot. Do you understand?"

Josie had guessed that. However, Dexter knocked on the door before she could ask more questions. He must have been tired of waiting and came to urge her to leave.

"Jo"

Josie's heart skipped a beat. She nodded at Laura and responded, "I'm coming"

After that, Dexter and Josie stayed in the villa for all three days of the New Year's holiday. They did not return to Mason Garden.

Perhaps it was due to the festive season, or Josie deliberately avoided arguing with him. Their relationship. was quite amicable.

Josie secretly researched symptoms of psychosis. Unfortunately, it was too complicated for her to comprehend. She planned to ask Matthew about it one day

On the other hand, Dexter came to enjoy cooking and did not ask Julie to send food over. Instead, he cooked their meals and was quite good at it.

He made baked sablefish with white wine and lemon for lunch. He bought the ingredients and cooked everything by himself.

It was difficult to find sablefish. Josie had a sudden idea when he told her about this and suggested rearing. it in their pond.

However, Dexter was not amused. He brought her to the pond and explained, "These fishes swam into the pond from the spring. If you wish to try them, I can cook fish stew tomorrow."

Between baked sablefish and fish stew, Josie preferred the latter. She liked food sourced locally and simple home-cooked food.

Dexter observed the gleam in her eyes and took note of her preferences. Then, he helped her tie her hair and asked casually, "Do you prefer it here or in Mason Garden?"

Josie looked at the carp in the pond. "Here."

She paused briefly and explained, "When I was younger, Justin and I were sent to the countryside during the summer holidays. It was a rural village. There was a pond in front of the house and a vast wheat field at the back. During autumn, the wheat field turned into a sea of gold under the sun. It was a sight to behold. There was also a river nearby with carp and trout."

Josie pondered briefly and gestured to Dexter the size of the trout. They were this big"

Dexter pursed his lips before relaxing into a smile.

He imagined Josie as a kid, folding up the hem of her pants to catch fish in the river. She would get her clothes all wet. The adults would scold her once she got home.

She must have been adorable.

Thus, he instantly figured out how they would live in the future.

"Josie!" Dexter called Josie to the yard after lunch. Someone had delivered many small peach trees to the yard. She had no idea how Dexter arranged it.

Josie ran outside and looked at the trees in disbelief. "You want to plant trees? It's winter."

Dexter had taken off his coat and took up a shovel. Tve consulted someone about it. He said they will

survive.”

Josie assumed he consulted an expert on this matter.

Although Josie was not entirely convinced, she still helped him to plant the trees.

The dozen of trees were spread out all over the yard. Josie asked while they watered the trees, “Will they blossom during spring?”

Josie stood straight and looked at the trees that had to survive winter. She felt sorrowful about the struggles they were about to face, yet she was also encouraged by their perseverance.

The yard will be a sight to behold if these trees survive and blossom in spring.

Suddenly, Josie felt a spark of anticipation for the days to come.

Dexter bent over the plants to water them. He was good-looking even in such a posture. Moreover, his expression no longer seemed cold but became more youthful.

Chapter 238 She Angered Him

Josie’s heart skipped a beat. She found it hard to believe that the handsome man before her had a hereditary psychological condition.

She felt anguished whenever she thought about it. Then, she took a deep breath and excused herself, saying she wanted to return to her room to wash her hands.

In actuality, she sneaked away to make a phone call. “Matt”

Matthew was surprised to receive her call. He sounded unnatural and a little hesitant. “Jo.”

“I want to consult you about something. I have a friend... His mother had a psychological condition. What is the possibility of him inheriting it?”

“What kind of psychological condition did she have?”

“Erm. She would turn violent and uncontrollable. She even hit her child during one of her extreme episodes.”

Matthew pondered briefly before replying. “I can help you to ask a colleague in the psychiatry department.”

“Sure, let me know once you find out about it.”

Then, she hung up and put away the phone. She glanced out of the window and discovered Dexter was no longer there. Thus, she hurried out of the room and opened the door, only to find a lengthy figure blocking her way.

Dexter stood before her in clothes stained with mud. He looked down at her with cold and emotionless eyes.

That chilling calmness sent panic through Josie’s heart.

“Dexter?” Did he hear it?

However, Dexter remained silent. Josie tried to explain, only to be interrupted, “Who told you.”

“I wasn’t talking about.”

“Was it Arnold?”

Josie wanted to deny Arnold’s involvement but could not say anything. She could not lie to Dexter

“Please listen to me. I have no ill intentions. I only wish to

Dexter dropped the shovel from his hand. He turned around without a word and walked out of sight. Josie opened her mouth but could not speak. She had never seen him look so alone and disconsolate.

He disappeared for a few days after that incident

She only heard about him again when the tabloid speculated he was involved with a female entrepreneur. They were photographed entering the same hotel.

The design department was buzzing with gossip about the scandal. However, Josie felt terrible, as if she had been plunged into icy waters.

She wanted to find Dexter to explain the misunderstanding. She moved back to Mason Garden, hoping to see him. However, he never showed up. Then, she went to his office on the top floor but could not find him. The secretary would only say that he was away.

It was the final work day before the holiday began. Josie woke up early, as usual, to go to work. She had no idea which servant made breakfast, but everything on the table was the food she hated.

That worsened her mood and left her without appetite. She drank from a glass of honey water while typing on her phone to instruct her subordinates about work.

Julie knew Josie’s preference but did not say anything. Josie had an idea about what was going on.

It made her feel depressed. She glanced at the unending snow outside the window and recalled the historical drama Alice was recently obsessed with.

Dozens of royal mistresses fought for the king’s affection. They schemed and conspired against each other, securing their position by getting rid of rivals or acting pitifully to secure favor. The king’s love flitted among them..

It did not matter who he liked. Anyone who lost his favor would lose everything.

What’s the point of all this?

Josie felt a sudden solidarity with the royal mistresses in the drama.

Suddenly, she heard someone come in, and the maid greeted, “Mr. Russell.”

Josie did not look up but left the table with her glass of honey water. However, Dexter grabbed her wrist and said coldly, “Have breakfast with me.”

I've eaten breakfast and have to rush off to work, I don't want to lose my attendance bonus by being late."

The dining room was silent. Even Julie did not dare to make a sound. The atmosphere was strained by the tension between Dexter and Josie.

Chapter 239 A Chance Meeting

Dexter dragged Josie back to her seat. "I'll pay you double."

The servant immediately removed the food on the table and replaced them with the food Dexter liked.

Josie's expression darkened. The new servant stood by the table and seemed eager to please Dexter. "It's my fault. I don't know Mrs. Russell's food preferences."

Dexter seemed famished. He ate without taking off his coat. There were flakes of snow on his shoulders.

After a few bites of food, he glanced at Josie's glass of honey water and responded, "There's no need to apologize. Did you hear her say anything?"

Josie pursed her lips. She had thought for many days about how she should explain the matter. However, she could not bring herself to speak.

"I heard you were looking for me recently." He looked at her with cold indifference.

"You seemed busy recently. I have a document requiring your signature but could never find you" Josie forced out a smile.

She could not understand why Dexter was doing this. She meant well for him, but he repaid her with cold. abandonment and humiliated her with scandals.

"You can give it to the secretary."

"Sure."

That was the end of their conversation.

The last day of work came to an end. Josie could not stop thinking about what had happened during breakfast. She packed her things absentmindedly and left the design department with Alice and the others. Meanwhile, Alice discussed the latest popular film with Kevan.

"Let's watch it. I have to return home tomorrow. It will be half a month before we meet again."

"Sure."

"Ms. Jo, do you want to go? It's my treat." Kevan's words awakened Josie from her daze.

Josie did not care about the movie. However, she knew she could not meet Dexter if she returned to Mason Garden. Even if she did see him, he would only mock her with his sarcasm.

"Sure"

By now, most of the employees had left the building. Thus, the elevator was much less crowded than before. However, no one expected to see Dexter when the elevator door opened.

Dexter seemed cold and stern, as usual. A secretary stood behind him.

Josie uniled stiffly. It was unusual for him to be here at this hour.

Even Kevan was a little stunned. He tugged Josie's sleeve and greeted, "Mr. Russell"

Kevan had only seen Dexter a handful of times since joining Russell Group. He was in awe of his powerful

presence every time.

Josie looked at Dexter and remained silent.

It made Kevan nervous.

Dexter nodded in acknowledgment of his greeting and moved to the side to create more space. It meant he invited them to join him in the elevator.

Kevan and Alice dared not refuse and dragged Josie into the elevator.

Josie stood stiffly in the cramped corner. She could not escape Dexter's minty fragrance and instantly felt awake.

The elevator traveled down slowly, prolonging the awkward silence between them.

Josie chose to play with her phone.

The elevator finally stopped. At the same time, Alice's phone rang. "Hello? Mom?"

"What? I will go home now! Wait for me!"

Then, she turned to Josie and whispered excitedly. "My mother arranged for me to have a blind date with a handsome man. I have to leave now. You can watch the movie with Kevan."

"Make sure to grab this chance," Alice said and winked hintingly. She disapproved of Josie's husband and felt Kevan was a better choice.

Hearing Alice's tone, Josie lost any desire to play with her phone. She glanced at Kevan and noticed he seemed awkward. Even his ears were red.

The elevator door closed again. Josie sensed the chilly aura from the body beside her.

Dextor's voice filled her ears. "Are you going to watch a movie?"

Kevan was stunned by Dexter suddenly striking up a conversation with him. He thought Dexter did it to understand his employees better.

At the same time, Kevan thought it would be advantageous to flatter his employer.

"Yes, Mr. Russell. It's recently been a popular romantic film."

Chapter 240 A Steamy Scene

Unexpectedly, Dexter did not respond or look at Kevant

Thus, Kevan had choice but to shut up.

The elevator arrived at the underground car park. Josie was the first to leave and did not spare a backward glance Kevan bid Dexter goodbye before running to catch up with Josie

Dexter frowned upon seeing them.

The secretary sensed his bad mood and felt nervous.

“What’s the film about?”

“Oh The secretary pondered before explaining awkwardly, T. I haven’t had time to watch it, but I read the reviews. I think it has a steamy scene.””

She had worked for Dexter for many years Thus, she knew what Dexter wanted to hear and what would make him angry.

As expected, Dexter’s expression darkened rapidly upon hearing her.

Meanwhile, Kevan caught up with Josie.

Many people were already waiting outside the cinema.

The cinema was located on a plaza belonging to Dester. They came out of the underground supermarket and saw it was crowded everywhere. Moreover, the place was prosperous due to its proximity to Russell Group

Kevan bought fried chicken and popcorn for Josie, but she refused it repeatedly. She would have liked those things a few years ago, but she had since learned to take care of herself and had not had junk food for a long time.

Moreover, she had lived in Mason Garden for so long that her taste bud became refined.

Who knew it was that easy to develop a different habit?

In short, it was hard to return to ordinary life after one got used to luxury.

Josie stared at Kevan’s sad expression dazedly until the surrounding noises alerted her that the movie was about to begin.

She took the bucket of popcorn from Kevan and smiled, Tll have the popcorn”

Josie was twenty-two years old but usually appeared mature beyond her young age. Thus, Kevan was surprised to see her relaxed and genuine smile. It made her seem even more youthful than usual.

Moreover, with her fair and flawless skin, her smile reminded him of white pear blossoms in full bloom

Kevan was briefly stunned before running to catch up with Josie

Their seats were at the back. The movie began right after they were seated

The opening credit listed the movie’s investors One of them was Dexter’s recently rumored girlfriend.

Josie pretended not to notice it.

The film was about two girls in love with the same guy. One boldly expressed her love, while the other concealed her feelings. The film focused on the friendship of the two girls who were best friends. On the other hand, the male lead turned out to be a scumbag the audience despised. He was indecisive and desired both girls. He arrogantly believed he deserved to have everything.

A few audience members began to shed tears halfway into the movie.

There was a scene in the bathroom where the two girls fought. They pulled at each other's clothes and splashed water at each other. Accusations were thrown around, and tears were shed. The scene ended with them apologizing to each other.

Josie was focused on the movie. The light from the screen shone on her face and made her glow alluringly.

"I thought you were my best friend! How could you fall in love with him?"

The girl slapped her friend.

"Two.... two years... Did you sleep with him? You make me nauseous. How could you be so shameless?"

The other girl slapped back and tried to tear off her friend's clothes.

"You d'mn b*tch!"

However, the girl grabbed her hand before she could slap her. "You call me a b*tch? Have you no conscience? Did you ever truly see me as your friend? How dare you blurt such blatant lies?"

Fool me once, shame on you; fool me twice, shame on me.

Only idiots will let themselves be tricked by the same lies repeatedly.

"Ms. Jo?" A soft voice called out to her, waking her from her thoughts.