

Wrath 491

Chapter 491:

She wasn't certain if Wendy had directly contributed to their downfall, but knowing she had kept Stephen as a plaything was enough for Janice to hold a grudge.

"Janice, just watch how I help you teach this guy a lesson."

"Mm-hmm?" Janice looked at Aiden, a hint of confusion in her eyes. "How do you plan to help?"

"Just watch," Aiden replied with a sly smirk, his smile chilling.

Daniel shivered, frowning. He wondered if the chill he felt was because he had skipped wearing an undershirt.

"Time's up, everyone!"

Devin's booming voice called everyone out of the house to gather in the courtyard.

As they surveyed the circle of chairs set up for the game, the group's expressions varied—some looked anxious, others resigned, and a few appeared eager.

"Isn't this scene strangely humorous? These dignified CEOs, usually so stern, are now lined up for a child's game. It's quite surreal."

"Enjoy the humor. It's not often you see them like this."

"What will Aiden and Kenneth do?"

Online spectators were particularly keen to see how Aiden and Kenneth, both usually severe CEOs, would handle the playful challenge of musical chairs.

Meanwhile, Daniel, with his muscular build, seemed naturally cut out for this kind of game, looking ready to dominate.

“As soon as the music starts, you’ll circle the chairs,” Devin explained, eyeing the participants. “Once the music stops, grab a seat quickly. Only those sitting when the music stops will move on. Anyone without a chair is out.”

He paused to ensure everyone was on the same page. “Does everyone understand the rules? Any questions?”

The group nodded in understanding, but then Leonidas stepped forward. “Isn’t this a bit too basic?” he asked.

Leonidas grinned slyly. “I think we could make it more interesting.”

“What do you suggest?”

“For example, we could put snakes, bugs, or other creepy crawlies on the chairs.”

A collective shudder ran through the group at the thought.

If they were to implement Leonidas’ wild idea, the game would turn from competitive to downright chaotic.

“Ahem!” Devin cleared his throat. “While that’s an intriguing idea, let’s save such stunts for another time. We’re live-streaming, and introducing snakes or bugs might cross a line with our platform guidelines.”

This response allowed Leonidas to save face, although his idea was not adopted.

Leonidas shrugged, his interest visibly waning.

“Is Leonidas serious? Snakes and bugs on the chairs? They’d be playing avoid the chair, not musical chairs!”

“He’s handsome, but why is he so devious?”

“You can’t judge a book by its cover! I’m glad I found out early. I’m no longer a fan.”

Many viewers were taken aback by Leonidas’ mischievous suggestion. Fortunately, Devin chose not to go along with it, preventing any potential distress among the guests.

Demi looked anxiously at the eight chairs lined up. “What am I going to do? I’m not athletic at all. Will I be the first one out?”

Chapter 492:

“Don’t worry, Demi. I’ll help you,” Carlton reassured her with a warm, gentle smile that brought a spark of joy to her face.

“Really? But you might get eliminated if you do.”

“It’s worth it,” Carlton replied earnestly. “If I can help you reach the end, I’m sure you’ll choose me for your date.”

“Absolutely.” Demi agreed, though she sneered internally. She’d choose between Aiden and Kenneth if she won. They were the most influential here, and aligning with them would be advantageous.

“Let’s start the game,” Devin said.

"I'm ready!" Daniel crouched slightly, poised like a predator, his muscular physique radiating strength. His suit, slightly open to reveal his chest, added a flamboyant touch that contrasted sharply with the subtle discomfort it caused others.

As the music started, the group began to circle the chairs. Aiden, tall and composed, moved with effortless grace, his demeanor that of a noble taking a leisurely walk.

Kenneth, full of energy and charisma, participated actively, displaying a reliability that surprised viewers who didn't expect such approachability from a CEO.

Janice, trailing close behind Aiden, moved with a light, steady pace that seemed to perfectly complement his.

"I ship Aiden and Janice. They look incredible together!"

"Aiden and Janice really do make a wonderful pair."

"Notice how Janice naturally falls in step behind Aiden among all the guests. It surely indicates something special."

With this observation, it became apparent that Janice was subconsciously following Aiden, perhaps without even realizing how naturally she gravitated toward him.

Maggie walked behind Janice, with Kenneth following Maggie.

This arrangement seemed logical.

Kenneth cherished his sister Maggie, always protecting her instinctively. This was entirely understandable.

Initially, Leonidas planned to follow Janice, but she was cautious, keeping him at a distance. Consequently, he found himself stuck next to Carlton.

Demi was positioned behind Kenneth, with Carlton behind her.

Leonidas found his place behind Carlton, closely followed by Daniel.

After completing the circle, Aiden ended up behind Daniel.

Daniel was indifferent to his position; he was focused solely on one of the eight chairs, confident his strength would ensure victory.

However, as the music ceased, Daniel hesitated briefly. Before he could move, a sharp pain shot through his side.

“Ah!” Daniel exclaimed, tumbling into a chair.

When he came to, Daniel noticed that everyone had found seats except for one—Leonidas.

Leonidas, his expression stormy, stared at the eight seated before him. He was taken aback to be the first out, all thanks to Carlton.

Carlton had cunningly stepped on his foot, blocking him from passing Demi.

“Leonidas, you’re out!” declared Devin, bringing everyone back to the moment.

“Wait a minute!” Daniel objected, scowling. “Someone pinched me just now. Who’s playing dirty?”

Chapter 493:

Devin sighed and responded, “A little roughness is expected in competitive play. If it’s too much, you’re free to quit.”

Stunned, Daniel clenched his jaw and retorted, "That's ridiculous! I'm not quitting."

He surveyed the group, his eyes settling on Aiden. "Remember this—cross me, and you'll regret it."

"Did anyone see that?" an online viewer asked.

"I didn't catch anything. It all happened so fast."

"I think Aiden did it, but he moved so fast I couldn't be sure."

Online spectators were abuzz with theories, suspecting Aiden had made a move, though no one saw it clearly. The action around the chairs was too quick to detail without a replay.

Meanwhile, Janice had seen it. She gave Aiden a sly grin.

Aiden returned Janice's gaze with a smile, as if to say, "This is just the start. I'll make him pay."

Janice shook her head, surprised that someone like Aiden could be so sly.

As the music had ceased, Aiden had dived for a chair while discreetly pinching Daniel's side. His actions had appeared accidental rather than intentional. However, the pinch had hit Daniel's most sensitive area, causing intense pain.

"Round two. Get ready!" Devin announced as the music resumed.

The eight players resumed their cautious circling around the seven chairs.

Daniel, now alert to Aiden's tactics, was prepared to counter any move he made.

When the music stopped, Daniel quickly turned, only to find Aiden had already sprinted towards a chair.

Daniel paused, surprised Aiden had not targeted him this time. Yet, in that moment of hesitation, another sharp pain struck him, sending him sprawling into a chair.

“Ah!” Daniel leapt up, his gaze sweeping the crowd angrily. “Who did it this time? Who pinched me?”

The crowd filled with confused looks at his outburst.

“Daniel, are you finished?” Devin asked, annoyance clear in his tone. “If you’re not up for the game, you can quit. I’ve already mentioned that some contact is part of the game.”

“Tsk, ts, despite your muscles, you seem quite delicate,” Maggie teased, her head tilted in mock disappointment. “Maybe it’s all for show—strong appearance, no substance.”

“What did you say?” Daniel snapped, his fury evident as he stared down Maggie.

Kenneth stepped forward, shielding Maggie. “What are you suggesting? Are you thinking of harming my sister?”

Caught by Kenneth’s stern look, Daniel backed down. “I would never harm a woman. I just thought...”

Wait!

Daniel suddenly noticed—when had Kenneth positioned himself there?

His attention had been fixed on Aiden, completely missing Kenneth’s advance.

If Aiden hadn’t pinched him just now, then it must have been Kenneth.

Suddenly, Daniel felt cornered, targeted by these influential players. But why? He hadn't provoked them, had he? Perhaps they envied his physique and used the game as a pretext for their antagonism.

Chapter 494:

"No backing out now, Daniel," Aiden quipped, a mischievous grin spreading across his face as he eyed Daniel. "If you give up, it'll prove you're all talk and no action. You've got to see this through—maybe even claim the last spot."

Daniel felt a chill run down his spine as it became clear that he was caught in the crosshairs of both Aiden and Kenneth.

Aiden glanced at Kenneth, a chilly smile forming on his lips. Kenneth seemed to be making things tough for Daniel too, probably as a way to get back at him for Janice. Kenneth didn't know the full story, but it was obvious Janice held little regard for Daniel. And where Janice had grievances, Kenneth was naturally on her side.

"Carlton, you're eliminated," Devin declared, snapping everyone's focus to the fact that Carlton had missed out on securing a chair in the last round.

Yet the audience had clearly noticed Demi was the one who should have been eliminated.

In a cutthroat game like this, the female contestants often faced awkward situations—especially someone like Demi, whose lack of athleticism was matched only by her obsession with maintaining her image.

If not for Carlton stepping in to shield her during the first round, she would've been out long ago.

This time, Carlton had gone above and beyond, sacrificing his own spot for her.

"Demi's way out of her depth! This game's about speed, and she's so slow—too busy fussing over her appearance. It's frustrating to watch!"

"Without Carlton, Maggie would've easily taken her down."

“Have you seen Janice? Her moves are so sharp and impressive!”

It finally dawned on everyone that in both rounds, Janice’s movements were quick and resolute.

As soon as the music stopped, she would gracefully slip into a chair, leaving everyone amazed at her effortless agility.

“Honestly, I’m starting to think Janice has had some training.”

“Totally! Her quick footwork looks like something straight out of a boxing gym. So smooth!”

While Janice moved with precision and grace, Maggie had tossed all concern for appearances aside, driven solely by the urge to win.

“And now, onto round three,” Devin announced.

Seven participants remained, but only six chairs were in play. All seemed composed, except for Daniel, who was drenched in sweat, his anxiety unmistakable. He had to stay alert, keeping an eye on both Aiden and Kenneth. This wasn’t just a simple game of musical chairs; it felt like a real test for him.

“I’d like to switch positions,” Daniel blurted, stepping forward with urgency.

“What now, Daniel?” Devin asked, his tone carrying a trace of impatience.

“Wouldn’t it be fairer if we all switched places?” Daniel suggested, stealing a nervous glance at Aiden and Kenneth. He clung to the faint hope that a change might save him.

“Fine,” Devin agreed without much deliberation, motioning for the players to rearrange.

But after the shuffle, Daniel's heart sank. He was still trapped between Aiden and Kenneth.

The only change? Aiden now loomed ahead while Kenneth stood behind, making it feel like a cruel joke of fate.

Chapter 495:

"Best of luck, Daniel!" Kenneth said with a radiant smile that, to Daniel, felt more sinister than encouraging.

Aiden threw him a look, saying nothing, though his icy stare screamed loud and clear: You're mine.

"Guys, I haven't wronged you, have I?" Daniel pleaded, his voice quivering. "Maybe I stole a little spotlight, but you're bigger than this, so no need to make me suffer."

"What do you mean? It's just a game," Kenneth said with a theatrical sigh, patting Daniel's shoulder as though the situation was beyond his control.

Aiden let out a low, icy chuckle, offering no clues to his next move as the music kicked off once more.

Janice followed behind Maggie, her amusement growing as she observed the antics of the three men.

Daniel looked utterly petrified, folding his arms and hunching over as if surrendering before the battle even began.

When the music cut off, Daniel froze. Aiden and Kenneth, moving in perfect unison, closed in from either side, herding him toward a chair with precision.

"Ah!" Daniel shrieked in agony.

Before, it had been a one-sided attack. Now, he was being pinched from both directions.

Both Aiden and Kenneth knew precisely where to hit to cause the most pain.

“Stephen, you’re eliminated,” Devin declared.

Janice blinked in surprise, turning to Stephen.

She’d been so focused on Daniel’s plight that she’d missed how Stephen got ousted.

The audience, however, had seen it all and was boiling with anger.

“Demi is the worst! Stephen had already claimed his seat, and she faked a fall just to trick him into giving it up.”

“Absolutely revolting! I knew she loved drama, but this is a new low!”

“Get off the stage, Demi!”

As the live stream chat erupted with calls for Demi to leave, she believed her actions had been subtle enough to go unnoticed. She was determined to secure first place so she could date either Aiden or Kenneth. With the backing of one of them, she would dominate the entertainment industry.

“Janice, Demi is just revolting,” Maggie murmured, noticing Janice’s confused expression.

Once Maggie explained the situation, Janice’s gaze turned icy as she stared at Demi.

“Janice, it looks like first place is destined for you,” Maggie added.

“Why?” Janice asked, surprised, glancing at Maggie.

“Aiden and Kenneth will surely support you,” Maggie said, her voice tinged with disappointment. “I’ve pushed myself hard, but it seems this is as far as I can go.”

“Who knows until it’s all over?” Janice offered a reassuring smile. “Push through to the end.”

Encouraged, Maggie’s spirits lifted and her resolve strengthened.

“I quit!” Daniel declared abruptly, unable to bear the pressure any longer.

He realized Aiden and Kenneth would not ease up on him. Though he had secured a chair, the toll was too great. If Aiden and Kenneth kept pinching him, he feared he might break down.

Chapter 496:

“With Daniel’s exit, only five contestants remain. Let’s proceed!” Devin announced.

With the field narrowed to five and just four chairs left, the intensity of the competition increased.

Daniel’s departure turned Aiden’s attention to Kenneth.

“Aiden, it seems it’s just us in the end,” Kenneth observed, watching him closely.

Aiden gave a mocking sneer but remained silent, his eyes fixed on Janice. Kenneth’s brow creased, underscoring his intent despite Aiden’s aloofness.

“I aim to win first place and then ask Janice out.”

“Is that so?” Aiden replied, his glance loaded with implication.

“I know you’re strong, but I’m not too shabby myself. I’m quite confident,” Kenneth asserted.

“Then good luck,” Aiden replied casually, leaving Kenneth feeling somewhat deflated.

Despite Aiden’s clear interest in Janice, he didn’t seem overly concerned about securing first place.

As the music resumed, the five contestants cautiously circled the four chairs.

Demi kept her eyes on Janice, seeing her as the main obstacle to victory. If she could just get Janice out of the way, she believed the remaining men would ease up on her because of her gender.

Maggie, in Demi’s eyes, was just a young girl and posed no real threat.

When the music suddenly stopped, Demi intensified her focus and moved toward Janice.

Unexpectedly, Maggie intervened, wrapping her arms around Demi.

“What are you doing?” Demi exclaimed, trying to wriggle free. “Let go of me!”

“You think you can target Janice? Not on my watch!” Maggie replied, dragging them both to the ground.

“Ah!” Demi cried out, her face turning pale. Maggie quickly got up and claimed a chair.

Realizing what had happened, Demi saw Maggie sitting there triumphantly.

She had underestimated Maggie, who had focused solely on her and ignored the others — a critical mistake.

“Maggie, well done!”

“I’ve been hoping to see Demi eliminated for a while, and now it’s finally happened.”

“Oh no, the competition is bound to escalate from here!”

As the four remaining contestants faced off, the online audience felt the tension rise.

Kenneth and Maggie, being siblings, were expected to collaborate against Aiden, increasing Kenneth’s chances of securing first place.

Janice’s next move, however, remained a mystery, leaving spectators wondering if she would side with Aiden or act independently.

“Kenneth, I’ll help you win first place,” Maggie declared.

Kenneth, visibly surprised, patted her head affectionately.

“Just do your best. If you win first place, I’ll be just as happy.”

Maggie shook her head, her expression determined. “Winning first place isn’t important to me. I don’t have anyone I want to date, so I’d rather support you.”

Chapter 497:

Touched, Kenneth’s gaze softened. “Maggie, I’ll talk to Dad about you sneaking back into the country and entering the entertainment industry.”

Maggie’s eyes brightened. “It’s a deal.”

Within the Delgado family, her father was the figure she feared most. Her unauthorized return to the country and her venture into the entertainment sector were bound to cause discontent.

Her mother might have been more lenient, but her father was strict.

“Devin, let’s change the rules,” Aiden suddenly proposed to Devin. “Maggie and Kenneth are siblings, and they’ll undoubtedly assist each other. I suggest we move to a team challenge—four people, one chair.”

“Are you sure?” Devin furrowed his brows, looking at Aiden with some confusion.

Changing the rules would put Aiden at a disadvantage. Maggie and Kenneth would definitely team up. On the other hand, Aiden and Janice weren’t clearly on the same page—one of them might betray the other at the last moment.

“Yeah,” Aiden replied, then glanced at Kenneth. “What do you think, Kenneth? Do you mind tweaking the game?”

“No, it’s fine by me,” Kenneth said, his gaze flicking to Janice. “How about you, Janice?”

“I think it’s a good call. Leaving one chair for the final round saves us energy and time,” Janice replied, then smirked as she glanced at Aiden. “I’ll be the one sitting on it, though.”

The message behind her words was loud and clear: whether alone or in a team, she was going to win the game.

Aiden wasn’t surprised or challenged; his demeanor was calm and his gaze gentle.

Kenneth frowned, observing this. It seemed Aiden was confident Janice would choose him as her date if she won, so he was acting chill about the whole thing.

But Janice’s recent actions suggested she was interested in Stephen, and there was a high chance she would choose him in the end.

“I guess that settles it. Let’s continue,” Aiden said, returning everyone’s attention to the game.

Hesitation left Devin's features as he nodded. "Alright. Since there are no objections, we'll proceed as suggested."

With that, all chairs but one were removed.

Tension rose as the four of them gathered around the remaining chair. Many online viewers watched in anticipation of Janice's and Aiden's tactics as they faced the Delgado siblings in the final round to win the game.

"I'm guessing Janice will team up with Aiden to take on Kenneth and Maggie, then beat Aiden for the win!"

"Is it just me, or is Aiden only there to help Janice secure the win?"

"This is so exciting! Can't wait to see who the winner will be!"

"You guys ready? Turn the music back on!"

At Devin's cue, the music returned to the stage.

The four started circling the chair in the center to the rhythm of the music.

Behind Kenneth, Maggie whispered, "Here's what we're going to do. I'll block Aiden, then you go for the chair, okay?"

"Aren't you afraid of getting hurt?" Kenneth asked in surprise. Taking on Janice seemed like the more reasonable option. After all, Aiden was her nightmare.

Chapter 498:

"I hope Janice can join our family." But Maggie shook her head, her eyes shining with determination. "Besides, I trust Aiden won't be too rough going against a girl."

Kenneth couldn't help but smile at her silly reasoning. The years he had spent looking after her hadn't been in vain.

Janice locked eyes with Aiden, and her heart skipped a beat.

The music stopped, and Maggie lunged at Aiden to stop him from going for the chair.

But to her surprise, he didn't move forward. Instead, he turned on his heels and charged toward her.

Confusion clouded Maggie's face.

Before she realized it, she was being dragged toward Kenneth.

"Wait, no! Kenneth!" Maggie tried to hold Aiden back, but he was too strong.

He practically lifted her like a lightweight tree log and placed her in her brother's arms.

Kenneth narrowed his eyes at Aiden, understanding what he was doing.

"You never wanted to win."

"You're right." Aiden met his sharp gaze with a smug smirk. "I want Janice to win."

Kenneth's jaw clenched, and a bitter smile crept across his face.

Here he was, aiming to win so he could earn the chance to ask Janice on a date, while Aiden had planned to make her the winner from the start.

“What if she doesn’t choose you?” he asked.

“Does it matter?” Aiden turned just in time to see Janice sitting on the chair. “As long as she wins, I’m good.”

“Oh my God! That is so sweet! He blocked the siblings so Janice could win!”

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“I’m shipping them for real!”

“I didn’t know Aiden had it in him to be so gallant, but he did it for Janice! He’s so cool!”

The viewers were in a frenzy, shocked but delighted by the unexpected turn of events.

They had expected Kenneth and Aiden to go head to head for the winning spot.

But because of Aiden, Janice got the win!

“We have a winner! Let’s give it up for Janice!” Devin announced, drawing applause from everyone on the set. “Now, as the winner of the game, you have the chance to choose a date from any of the male guests. Who will the lucky guy be?”

“Janice, I hope you’ll invite me,” Daniel stepped forward with practiced grace, offering a slight bow he clearly thought charming. “I’ve arranged everything to perfection for tonight—the finest restaurant, the most luxurious hotel. I promise you an evening you’ll never forget.”

The crowd watched in stunned silence, their eyes fixed on his brazen display.

His audacity defied belief. Even after Janice’s clear rejection, here he stood, shameless as ever, practically demanding an invitation from her.

“Oh my gosh! Can someone please shut this clown up!”

“The nerve of this guy! How dare he ask Janice for an invitation right in front of Aiden and Kenneth?”

“Some people simply have no sense of dignity.”

The online audience recoiled at Daniel’s shocking display of boldness. Yet despite the waves of contempt rolling off the onlookers, Daniel remained oblivious, striking several more posed stances.

Chapter 499:

His attempt to exude masculine charm only made him appear more ridiculous. He couldn’t capture even a moment of Janice’s attention. Her gaze landed on Aiden.

“Aiden, would you join me for a date?”

“Of course.” Aiden moved toward her with easy confidence.

“You seem unsurprised by my choice.”

Janice studied the man before her, taking in the quiet self-assurance that lit his eyes.

“I didn’t know. But I support any choice you make.”

His response caught Janice off guard.

She’d expected dominance, demands that she pick him. Instead, he offered simple acceptance of whatever she decided.

“You seem different somehow. I barely recognize this side of you,” she murmured.

“That’s natural. People change and grow, don’t they?” Aiden’s gaze was gentle as he looked at her, his eyes mirrors reflecting only her image.

Janice’s eyes sparkled with recognition. Aiden had indeed changed, showing a depth of emotion she’d never seen before.

From the sidelines, Leonidas watched the pair with darkening eyes. This game had veered far from his original script.

He’d planned to enjoy himself, only to be knocked out by Carlton in the first round.

Yet somehow, that didn’t bother him anymore.

After all, wasn’t unpredictability the spice of life? If everything followed his blueprint to the letter, where would the entertainment be in that?

As he wondered about Janice and Aiden’s evening plans, his phone buzzed with a message.

A cunning smile played across his features as he read it. “Ah, Nolan’s concert it is.”

The program team’s private car whisked Janice and Aiden away, while the remaining guests returned to the villa for their free time.

The live stream cut off, leaving viewers to wait until tomorrow for more content.

This fresh take on reality TV had captured audiences like nothing before. The unpredictability, the excitement—it was addictive. Even with the stream offline, social media buzzed with theories and discussions.

Trending topics exploded across platforms, breathing new life into what had been a struggling romance show. Headlines dominated the feeds:

“Unexpected Power Couple: Former Edwards Heiress and Green Group CEO?”

“Daniel, the clown and muscle man? Wasn’t he a fitness enthusiast who captivated thousands with his sculpted physique? How could he have fallen so far?”

“The Delgado siblings, Maggie and Kenneth, on a dating show? That’s explosive.”

Social media buzzed with fervent discussions about the contestants, with Aiden and Janice commanding the spotlight, while Stephen and Daniel followed closely in trending topics.

Ironically, Daniel’s viral status stemmed purely from mockery. Demi and Carlton had carved out their own following, with a devoted faction of fans championing their potential romance. However, Demi was quite dissatisfied with this outcome.

“How dare I rank last in popularity?” Demi’s fingers curled into fists, her eyes flashing with anger. “The chemistry between Carlton and me is undeniable. So why are Aiden and Janice stealing all the attention?”

Chapter 500:

“Demi, we’re powerless to change this,” her agent sighed wearily. “Your past actions have earned you a reputation for being ‘calculating’ among viewers. Moving forward, you need to tread carefully and avoid stirring up any more controversy. Look on the bright side—you’ve got a solid fanbase rooting for you and Carlton. Focus your energy on winning Carlton’s heart.”

“No way!” Demi’s head snapped up, defiance blazing in her eyes. “Carlton? He’s nothing but the heir to a declining family. Next to Aiden and Kenneth, he’s barely worth mentioning. He’s useful only as a rung on my ladder to greater heights. I’ll find a way to capture the attention of Aiden and Kenneth. They’re the real prizes here.”

The agent frowned upon hearing Demi’s words. “Demi, can’t you see? Aiden and Kenneth are clearly interested in Janice. Winning them over is simply not feasible.”

“Are you questioning my charm?” Demi retorted, her lips curling with disdain. “Janice may be somewhat attractive, but her aloof demeanor and air of superiority are hardly appealing. What charm does she hold for men? I have a way with men, and I’m confident I can sway Aiden and Kenneth. As long as they’re men, they won’t be immune to my allure.”

Knowing Demi’s determination, the agent realized further argument was futile. “Go ahead and try then. But be ready to pivot your strategy quickly if it proves ineffective.”

Demi narrowed her eyes, her resolve unwavering. She was not going to allow herself to fail.

Suddenly, there was a knock on the door.

Startled by the sound, Demi quickly regained her composure and opened the door with a smile.

Carlton stood there, his demeanor bright and cheerful.

“Carlton, what brings you here?”

“I found some eggs in the kitchen and thought you might be hungry, so I cooked you a couple of fried eggs.”

He extended a plate of freshly fried eggs toward her.

Demi’s eyes brightened; she was indeed feeling a bit hungry. Though she could order takeout, their remote location meant delivery would take at least an hour.

Having these fried eggs to tide her over was quite convenient.

“Carlton, that’s incredibly thoughtful of you,” Demi said, her face lighting up with joy and gratitude.

Carlton's expression softened, delighted by her appreciation. "I'll handle dinner later too. The crew mentioned that starting tomorrow, we won't be able to order out and will need to cook for ourselves."

"Okay, sounds good." Demi nodded, but her smile faded into a somber expression.

"What's wrong? You seem unhappy."

"It's nothing," Demi replied, shaking her head and forcing a smile. "I just feel a bit overwhelmed. As a lesser-known celebrity, I feared I'd be isolated here, but meeting you has truly been a blessing."

Her sincerity touched Carlton deeply.

She added, "With you around, Carlton, I feel much more at ease."

Carlton hesitated, raising his hand briefly before letting it fall. "I'm also just starting out, not very well-known, so we're in this together. I'll help you out on the show whenever I can."

"Thank you. I'm a bit tired now and would like to rest."