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Chapter 471 Good, So What

The next day, the gang arrived at Landred City. Having just walked out of the airport hallway, they were stopped by two MPVs—one black and one white. One of the doors of the black car was pushed open. Alighting from the black car was an elite-looking man who then approached Alexander with a courteous greeting. “It’s all ready, sir.”

“Okay.” Alexander nodded. When he turned around, he saw a middle-aged man alighting from the white MPV before coming over to hug Elise.

“Mr. Albert!” Elise amiably called out for Albert and went in for a light hug.

Getting out of the hug, Albert warmly uttered, “Let’s go, Miss Sinclair. The master has been waiting for a long time.”

“How did Papa know I’m here?” Elise curiously quizzed.

“This airline belongs to the Fassbenders. Both you and the master have your names on the list of VIPs, so we are notified every time you get on it,” Albert answered.

Acknowledging his answer, Elise tensed her brows. With that, she turned to Alexander. “See you at the auction?”

“Mhm,” Alexander simply blurted.

“What about you guys? Who are you going with?” Elise inquired Danny and the rest.

“With the boss, of course!” Danny stood beside her, gratifying. Now that he was officially a member of SK Group, it was only natural for him to follow his leader.

Wordlessly, Joseph, too, went behind her.

At that moment, Alexander shot Clement a glare. Although as robotic as usual, Clement joined Elise as well.

“Nobody wants you, Alex!” Danny boldly teased.

What can I do? Look at their shimmering eyes! Elise suggestively looked at Alexander, shrugging, before turning around and getting into the car.

Only after watching their car depart did Alexander enter his vehicle.

Soon, the Fassbenders' car stopped at the most renowned restaurant in Landred City. Subsequently, the restaurant manager came out and guided them into the building, bringing them to the open-air area on the top floor. Getting out of the elevator, Elise immediately saw Quentin, who had been waiting for her. "Papa!" Elise dashed to him and threw herself into his embrace.

"Haha. So you do still remember I'm your papa. How long has it been since you last called me?" Quentin affectionately ranted as they walked.

Behind them were Clement and the rest who tacitly maintained a distance.

"Why do I feel like I've seen Mr. Fassbender before..." Wondering, Danny scratched the back of his head before pulling Albert. "Excuse me, but what industry does your master deal in?"

"All of 'em," Albert sternly replied.

Danny was somewhat tilted by his rigid behavior. Thereupon, he silently grabbed his phone and surfed the web for anything that pertained to Quentin and Albert, only for his screen to be clumped with the typical rich-man-falls-for-pretty-maid novels. After scrolling through irrelevant results, he eventually found something surprising. Discreetly, he tapped on an article titled 'Accomplishments of the World's Top Billionaire Quentin Fassbender and Butler Albert Mann.'

Noticing the change on his face, Clement noiselessly peeked at his phone. Seeing the words 'World's Top Billionaire Quentin Fassbender,' he immediately withdrew his gaze and quietly swallowed his saliva.

Meanwhile, Elise followed Quentin to the dining table, and only realized then there were other guests as well. Among them was a girl that was a few years younger than her, who emitted an overbearingly lavish, star-struck aura.

"Joey, meet your sister, Elise," Quentin introduced.

So that's Papa's blood daughter. I've always heard that she was studying abroad, but I never knew she came back.

Joey reluctantly stood up and walked to Elise. Smugly, she uttered in French, "Hi, honored to meet you." As if she had predicted Elise wouldn't catch up, she revealed a victorious look.

Little did she expect, Elise came back at her with fluent French. "Hello, Joey. Papa's always talking about you. You're really adorable, you know!"

Without going further, Joey turned away after blurting a thanks and swiftly withdrew her hands.

Quentin was rather joyous to see that. "Haha! Ellie, since when did you even learn French?"

"Papa, have you forgotten about the French customer that always frequented the Sinclairs' farm? It was you who introduced us to him. How could you forget about that?" Elise explained.

Upon realization, Quentin waved his hand. "Oh, right! There was that guy. Oh, old people and their short-term memory. Forget about that. You must be starving after such a long flight. Come, eat up!"

Elise noticed that on her half of the table were filled with her favorite dishes, while the dishes on the other half were obviously of a different taste. Amused by how Quentin treated both of them, Elise sneakily beamed. Then, she sat down and began chatting with Quentin, while Joey was uninterested the whole time.

Eventually, Quentin found an opportunity to draw his attention to her. "Look at you fidgeting around like a monkey! Is there a nail on your seat? Can't you sit still?"

In response, Joey rolled her eyes and turned away, having no intention to entertain him.

Quentin sighed as he looked at Elise. "She's growing out of me. Why don't you take care of her for me, Elise?"

"With what?" Disaffected, Joey mocked, "She simply knew a few French words from dealing with a Frenchman. What could a country woman possibly teach me?"

"I have my reasons for letting her be your guide. Disobey me and you can forget about your allowance," Quentin threatened.

As those words hit her fatal spot, Joey angrily pouted her lips, though she didn't dare to answer back.

"If so, I shall share the burden with you, Papa," Elise smilingly agreed to his request, and Joey was obviously annoyed.

After dinner, Joey left with Elise's party. Having walked out of the restaurant, she immediately went the opposite direction.

"Where are you going?" Elise turned to look at her.

"Mind your own business." Joey scornfully glared at her and continued walking.

"An autographed poster from mysterious singer H." Out of nowhere, Elise muttered sotto voce.

The next second, drawn to the lure, Joey froze and automatically returned.

“Are you serious?” Joey eyed her in disbelief.

“And a private photograph.”

Shocked, she started panting and shaking Elise’s arm violently. “Where! Gimme, gimme!”

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Chapter 472 How Dull, How Fascinating!

“Wait a minute.” Joey suddenly calmed down. “How did you know that I love H? Did my dad tell you that? You’ve been planning this! Great!”

“Come on, give your father some credits.” Elise indifferently uttered, “He didn’t tell me anything. I guessed it.”

“Guessed it? How? We hardly spoke.” Joey expressed her skepticism.

Elise then looked at her body as she smoothly clarified, “The cute figurine hanging on your bag is from H’s Q series, and your bag is of the same brand H carried when she attended events.”

Joey was dumbfounded. “Who are you?”

“You wanna know?” Elise lifted one of her eyebrows.

Joey, in return, stupidly nodded.

“See for yourself.” Elise pulled a face on her and turned around to leave.

Baffled for a moment, Joey stomped her feet toward Elise. “Hey! Where’s my signed poster and photograph?”

At that moment, Danny slyly barged in. “I’m one of H’s friends, you know? Call me ‘Big Bro Danny’ and I’ll get them for you. How’s that?” He had always wanted a little sister with a cool yet silly personality like Joey.

But Joey stared at him as if he was deranged. “Stay away from me!”

Having brought humiliation upon himself, Danny could only sulk as he leaned against Clement.

As he was about to lean in, Clement slowed down his steps, widening the gap between him and Danny.

“Not cool, man!” Danny stood still on the ground, expressing his anger.

Clement, however, couldn't care more. He walked past him and chased after Elise without a word.

Tilted, Danny pursed his lips. Perhaps he was the one that nobody wanted.

...

The next day, Faye, along with an agent of Anderson Pharmaceuticals based in Landred City, arrived at the land auction venue.

“Miss Faye, you didn't actually have to come, you know. None of the participating bidders can compete with the Andersons. With their capabilities, there's no way they could acquire the land,” the agent, Armand Kurt, stated.

“I don't need you to tell me that. I know what I'm doing.” Her mysterious appearance was meant to confuse anyone who attempted to read her mind. Though, that was nothing but a facade. In fact, she was so nervous about the auction that she felt compelled to witness the end of it. Trevor surviving had been a huge shock to her, and she had since been anxious about things not going her way. Hence, she had to supervise everything herself. Once she had gotten her hands on this piece of land, those misogynistic incels from the company's board would no longer have anything to say about her. Having thought of that, she heaved a sigh. Ever since Elise became Yoona, she never lived a day peacefully, as if something was constantly pricking her.

“What a small world it is.” All of a sudden, a voice interrupted her contemplation. Turning to the source, she saw Elise and Alexander intimidatingly walking toward her under the company of a bunch of men.

“Why are you here?” Faye questioned in a hostile tone.

“For the same reason you came,” Danny discourteously mocked.

Faye squinted her eyes. I knew things wouldn't go so smoothly!

“Oh, Elise, as much as you hate me, it's not funny to pull pranks in auctions. Raising the price will only obstruct the company's goals, you know?” Faye softly warned.

“Can't be too sure about that.” Alexander cut in, “If Elise acquired the land and joined the Andersons, wouldn't that be highly beneficial to the company? What do you think of that, Miss Faye?”

Hearing that, Faye gritted her teeth as she aggressively glared at Elise. I knew it. This b*tch is only here to take a slice of our family's properties! And now she's finally out of patience and has decided to infiltrate the company with this piece of land! Dream on! As if I'll allow that!

"We'll see about that!" Having said that maliciously, Faye went away in her heels. A country girl clinging to a broke, washed out heir of a millionaire dares to challenge the Andersons? Know your damn place!

Unlike a conventional auction, a land auction offered only one particular. Therefore, every single bidder was a daunting opponent. After a brief introduction, a strike of a mallet thundered through the room. "The starting bid is thirty-eight million, raising two million with each bid. Without further ado, let the auction begin."

Accordingly, a number of relatively small businesses called out their bids. When the bid reached forty-five million, Armand, under Faye's order, yelled, "Fifty million." With him pushing the bid, the other competitors instantly acknowledged their determination, and, thus, stopped calling bids.

As the auctioneer was about to finalize the auction, he saw a delicate arm being raised, followed by a heavenly timbre of a damsel. "Sixty million." After calling that, Elise turned to Faye with a subtle, polite nod. In response, the crowd started gossiping about her.

"Who's that young chick, so bold to go against the Andersons?"

"Sixty million... She raised ten million just like that... How long does it take to regain that sum?"

"She must be bluffing, right? There's no way she could afford that."

"Tsk... It seems we got ourselves a plot twist. I thought the Andersons were easily the winner with Miss Faye here."

Speechless, Faye gritted her teeth as she gripped her skirt. She'd been expecting Elise to make a move soon. But surprisingly, Elise raised the bid by ten whole million, and that was frighteningly beyond her calculations! This b*tch is clearly trying to embarrass me in front of the crowd!

"What should we do, Miss Faye? We're gonna have a hard time with the board if we fail to acquire the land!" Armand hastily stated.

"Shut up! You think I don't know that?" Faye threw a tantrum at her subordinate as she started panting.

Whether she failed to acquire the land, or exceeded their calculated budget, she would have to receive an earful from the old men in the company. This b*tch is not giving me a choice, damn it!

Elise faintly smiled at Faye's frustration as the former remained her serene, unaffected look. Forget about unpredictability, if she wished to, she could turn the entire Anderson Family upside down!

She can't even take this! Guess she's still weak, after all! Elise blurted, "How dull." As she stood up and was getting ready to leave, she heard Faye's scream. "Seventy million!"

Oh? Here she comes. Elise coldly lifted her commissures, revealing a grin.

Nevertheless, little did Faye know, she could accumulate all of her family's assets and it would hardly be Elise's pocket money, so how could Faye compete with her?

As Elise viciously turned around, intending to call bid, a man in the front row raised his hand. "Ninety million."

"How fascinating." Elise mischievously smirked. She returned to her seat and whispered to Alexander. "Never would have expected someone to share a common source of pleasure with me—seeing the pain on Faye's face."

Alexander revealed a knowing grin. "Yeah. Get a room, you two."

Elise bit her lips. "If I could get a penny every time you got jealous, I could have owned the World Bank!" Then, she turned to observe Faye's reaction.

Obviously, Faye couldn't afford such a fierce price. And so, she stopped making any noise.

Finally, the auctioneer struck his mallet, finalizing the bid. "And the land goes to ninety million. Congratulations!"

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Chapter 473 Disrespect My Woman, Disrespect Me

Failing to acquire the land, Armand grew utterly anxious. As soon as the auction ended, he stormed out and made a call to come up with a solution.

Faye, on the other hand, was trying her best to remain composed and act as natural as possible to face Elise, who was going her way.

“Aww. What should we do? The land you’ve been craving has fallen into another’s hands.” Elise expressionlessly mocked, “Looks like even without Trevor, you won’t be able to secure your position for long.”

“Hmph, you don’t have to worry about that.” Faye sneered, “I failed, but you didn’t exactly succeed, so there’s no point in any debate, is there?”

“Right. Because of that, I lost my only chance to join Anderson Pharmaceuticals…” Elise deliberately made a remorseful face before returning to her uninterested look. “But you seem to have forgotten that I have no intention of returning there.”

Faye was taken aback, unable to speak a word.

“Hence, I’ve never wanted anything. Besides, what’s the point of dwelling on stuff that’s already lost?” Elise profoundly continued, “However, seeing that hideous scowl on your face is pretty satisfying. Isn’t that something worth celebrating?”

“Of course, it is!” Danny openly uttered, “We should all drink to such a joyous occasion! To the misfortune of a certain woman!”

“Say that again and I’ll f*cking rip you apart!” Her eyes wide, Faye shot daggers at him.

“Oh yeah? I’d like to see you try. I’ve been hoping for a sparring partner!”

At that moment, a man in an expensive suit came forth with a file.

“Excuse me. May I know which one of you is Miss Sinclair?” the man in suit politely asked.

“It’s me. What’s the matter?” Elise recognized the man, the same man who took the land away from her and Faye.

“Great.” The man beamed as he handed the document over. “This is the deed to the land. I, representing my boss, transfer this gift to you.”

“Wait, who’s your boss again?” Elise warily questioned.

“He’s the founder of Smith Co.—Kenneth Bailey,” the man calmly answered.

“But I don’t know any Kenneth, or any Bailey.” Elise hadn’t even heard of anything remote to Smith Co.

“That’s perfectly fine. You just have to know that, once you’re in Smith Co.’s territory, you become one of our most prestigious guests.” The man then lowered his body and handed out the deed in his hand. “Please accept the gift, Miss Sinclair, or I’ll have a hard time.”

Elise always hated people who attempted to force a relationship with her. He wants to know me, so what? Must I agree to that? Nevertheless, seeing the frustration on Faye's face, she momentarily hesitated.

Alexander, who had been silent the whole time, came over and accepted the documents. "Thank you very much. I'll accept it in her stead."

"Sure. Now, if you'll excuse me..." Fulfilling his mission, the man in suit departed.

Then, Elise rolled her eyes at Alexander. "Are you going to return the favor in my stead too?"

"Why not? You owe me that anyway," Alexander replied. After all, Kenneth Bailey and Alexander Griffith were only the same person.

"Huh?" Elise felt something was off.

"What I mean is that I'll return the favor for you, so naturally, you owe me what you owed him," Alexander smilingly clarified.

"Sounds like a plan." Turning away, Elise cunningly grinned. "Well, that means I owe nothing!"

Alexander responded with a bitter scowl, yet he countered with nothing. Since he had acquired the land for her by using Smith Co., he had no intention to ask for anything in return. To his own woman, he could only treat with unconditional pamperings.

Mischievously, Elise pulled a face at Faye and shoved the deed before her. "So, what're you gonna do now?"

Faye clenched her fists, so vexed that she couldn't speak up. She gnashed her teeth so hard she could hear them gritting against each other. Why, this b*tch! She took away my identity and my honor, and now even people from Smith Co. are giving her such special treatment! How am I losing to her? Apart from relying on her man, does this shameless b*tch even know anything about anything? How ridiculous!

Seemingly perturbed, Armand came over with his phone, muttering, "Miss Faye, your father wishes to speak with you."

Consequently, she collected her feelings and regained composure, calmly stating, "Just you wait, Elise! You won't be so lucky all the time!" Finished, she snatched Armand's phone and fled the scene.

Elise let out a scoff before tossing the deed back to Alexander. "How unexciting. I don't want it anymore. You take it."

Holding the file, Alexander teased, "You're just gonna treat the land that cost ninety million like a toy?"

"It's not like I can eat it or cuddle it to sleep. What am I gonna do, worship it?" Elise waved her hand as she turned to the exit. What a dull day! I'd rather stay home and fool around with Joey.

On their way home, they stopped by a photo shooting studio. Elise, together with Danny, stormed into the studio and drove everyone inside out. Later, they came out with a rolled poster and a stack of photos in their hands.

"This is the rent for your studio and the compensation for your crew's losses." Danny handed a check to the studio's manager and got back into their car with Elise.

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Chapter 474 The More Dangerous a Place Is, the Safer It Is

After Elise brought Danny back to the bedroom, she was about to open the door with the access card when a sound of the door unlocking sounded.

The next moment, the door was opened from the inside. Joey was standing at the door, looking at them with scrutiny.

"Weren't you going to get H's poster from the photography studio by the roadside?"

Keeping the access card, Elise looked back at Joey before asking, "You were following us? No, you wouldn't be able to catch up with Cameron driving. So who did you plant a tracking device on?"

After she said that, she already had an answer in mind.

Among them, the only person who wouldn't be as careful was Danny. Undoubtedly, the tracking device would have been put on him.

At this moment, a glimmer of interest shone in Elise's eyes. "Where did you get the tracking device?"

"I made it myself," Joey said proudly. "It's nothing too complicated. I only needed a GPS and a signal receiver."

"How did you plant it on Danny?" Elise asked.

"What?!" At once, Danny was shocked. He even began to spew internet dialects. "You planted a tracking device on me?!"

Joey didn't seem to be bothered by that. With a shrug, she replied, "It's nothing hard. I just had to tug on his necktie and it was done."

"Necktie?" Immediately, he fiddled with his necktie and gave it a hard pull. Then, a black tracking device that was the size of a bean dropped out.

"You sneaky, uncultured person! I genuinely thought that you saw me as a brother. Instead, you were using me all this while?!"

Needless to say, he was furious. After disposing of the device, he dumped the poster and photos in his arms on Elise before walking off angrily.

Seeing that, Joey kept an innocent face. "I just merely put something on him. Why make such a fuss?"

"You stomped all over his sincerity toward you," Elise explained.

"I don't understand you guys." Staring at the posters that were scrolled up, Joey changed the topic in a split second. "Are you thinking of exploiting the fact that H hasn't shown her face before? Did you simply get some fake photos and sign it to fool me?"

With all the stuff in her arms, Elise said as she walked, "I wish, but can I fool your eyes?"

"Good that you know." Joey followed after her and closed the door. "Don't think that I'm gullible because I'm young. I'm H's diehard fan. I will definitely know if it's her real picture or not."

At this moment, Elise tore off the tape on the poster to reveal its content. At the lower right corner, there was a huge signature of H.

The moment Joey saw the side profile of the woman on the poster, she was sure that it was H. Like a possessed person, she walked closer before taking hold of the two corners of the poster carefully.

"It's really H! There's even her signature. Her H is always signed like it was diagonal." She was so over the moon that her eyes were brimming with tears. At that moment, she looked like she had a treasure in her hands. She handled the poster gently and slowly as she spread it out on the table.

Elise had never expected that her signature would get such a comment, so she raised her brow out of awkwardness.

"Why did you leave a signed poster at such a crowded place? What if it got torn or dirty?" Joey examined the picture like a paleontologist while replying in an accusatory tone.

“The more dangerous a place is, the safer it is,” Elise retorted.

“That is not logical scientifically,” Joey snarled. “Why don’t you just admit that you didn’t bother to keep H’s item properly?”

“Alright. You’re right,” Elise replied.

Aside from entrepreneurs who want to brag about their success, Elise thought that there wouldn’t be anyone else who’d frame her picture and hang it up.

At this moment, Joey sensed something fishy from Elise’s tone. Hence, she looked up quickly before staring at her with a sharp gaze. “You know H.”

It was a firm claim that she deemed was true.

“Kind of.” Elise didn’t deny it.

At once, Joey sat upright. If her guess was right, in this world, people who were unbothered by H’s attractiveness either were idiots or friends that were really close to her.

Only good friends wouldn’t care if one of them was at the top with fame or at the bottom with nothing. No matter what happened, they would treat each other normally.

“Elise.”

The way Joey suddenly changed her attitude made Elise choke on her saliva. Elise coughed before exclaiming, “I need time to get used to your rapid change!”

“Elise.” Closing in on Elise, Joey stretched her hand out before shaking Elise’s hand. At that moment, Joey seemed very careful and bewildered. “Please bring me to see H. The biggest wish in my life is to see her in person. I just want to see her once. I’d gladly die for that opportunity!”

Upon hearing that, Elise retracted her neck as she looked at Joey with a look filled with caution.

She never thought of a way to deal with a fan who would die to see their idol.

Hence, she could only use an excuse to delay it. “You can see her, but we have to set rules. When you become a person that Papa and I would approve of, I will bring you to see H.”

“Deal!” Joey exclaimed excitedly. After saying that, she was afraid that Elise would go back on her words, so she pulled her hand over before giving her a high five. It was only then that she smiled with satisfaction.

Looking at how excited Joey was, Elise shook her head helplessly.

For a person that she had never seen, Joey was willing to face uncertain situations and constrict her true self. Was that worth it?

Most importantly, Elise wasn't sure if she had such charm.

Currently, Joey knew what Elise was thinking, but she didn't mind.

After all, Elise wasn't aware of how many people wanted to see H in person. To Joey, a person like H who glowed from head to toe was worth all her dedication,

The next day, Elise found a book on computer coding for Joey to practice on. Elise told the girl to learn half of it before she returned, or she wouldn't be allowed to speak.

...

Today, Elise was going to attend a gem auction event.

On her schedule, Faye had highlighted that this was important, so she couldn't miss it.

When she reached the entrance, everyone else was present except for Alexander.

"Where's your brother?"

Hearing that, Danny shrugged to show his oblivion.

"Young Master is currently working on something," Clement said. "I'll be with you, Miss Sinclair. It will be fine."

At this moment, Danny threw his arm over Clement's shoulder before saying, "Perhaps you've misunderstood my brother. Look at Elise. Do you think she needs your protection?"

Clement seemed to be confused.

"You still got a lot to learn, my friend!"

After giving his shoulder two pats, Danny ushered Clement into the car.

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Chapter 475 God's Chosen Girl

The gem auction event was a specialty of Landred City. Many places would have their own local street delicacy, and every city would have a place that was mysterious and challenging to go to. As such, those places would attract many tourists to visit and for Landred City—it was the gem auction event.

In Landred City, the gem auction event was one of the recommended places to visit. Previously, this once-a-year event would be held at a further place, but the organizer somehow managed to hold this event that had a gambling characteristic in the city center.

Stone gambling didn't mean gambling on the stone itself, but the jade and jadeites inside the stone. Becoming rich or broke overnight depended solely on one's luck and eye—it was similar to buying lottery tickets.

A hundred million citizens of Cittadel would buy lottery tickets, so stone gambling was also relatively adopted by many.

In recent years, there had been many cases where people became rich because of stone gambling. Because of that, more and more people were putting their fortune into the gem auction event with such determination.

When Elise and the others got out of the car, they bumped into Faye. However, she wasn't a subordinate at the company today. In fact, she dressed like a young lady from a rich family.

After Elise took Faye's spotlight yesterday, Faye held a grudge. Now that Elise came to her herself, Faye did not want to let go of the chance to humiliate her.

"Why are you here? Stone gambling isn't like anything else. You can't see it, nor can you touch it. If you're not knowledgeable in this field, all your money can go down the drain. Don't waste money just because you want to irritate me, Elise," Faye said in a pretentious tone.

In response, Elise smiled before saying, "I don't know where to spend my money anyway. I'll think of it as doing charity. It's such a fun event, so I can't bear to miss it."

"Fun? You can get bankrupt! Even if you have a lot of money, this event will definitely make you lose all you have sooner or later." After leaving Athesea, Faye no longer cared about her sisterhood with Elise. With the tone of an elderly, she said sarcastically, "You've been staying in the countryside for so long, so it's normal if you don't understand stone gambling. Stone gambling, after all, is still a form of gambling."

With a shrug, Elise said, "Aren't these just stones in the end?"

To her, jades and any other precious stones were all similar—they were all just stones like the common ones on the road.

“Tsk, the ignorance.” Just as she finished saying that, the woman next to Faye sneered, “Uneducated people are just uneducated. How dare you reduce jades to nothing? Even God’s Chosen Girl won’t dare to say that.”

“God’s Chosen Girl?” Elise raised a brow.

“Countryside people are so troublesome. They need people to teach them everything. To not have heard of God’s Chosen Girl... Who let her in?” The woman didn’t hold back on criticizing her.

Hearing that, Elise showed a dark face. Did they expect her to remember all the famous people in all the fields? How tiring would that be?

Some onlookers were kind enough to explain, “Three years ago at a gem auction event in Dukethorn, a girl with a veil came out of nowhere. The stones that she bought all turned out to be imperial jade of good grade. That made her the center of attention, triumphing over the well-known buyers. Hence, people in the field call her God’s Chosen Girl. God must be looking over her.”

“That’s right. I was there at the scene too. The woman looked young, but her aura doesn’t lack behind any men. Her actions were calm and precise. After cracking the stone, she seemed so indifferent. I’ll probably never attain that kind of knowledge and wisdom that she has.”

“However, the God’s Chosen Girl hadn’t shown up ever since then. I wonder if I will have the chance to watch her crack stones again in this life.”

After hearing what the person said, Elise showed an undigested expression.

Was that it?

Was it that easy to become God’s Chosen Girl?

With good luck, anyone could become God’s chosen child. Was that all?

“I think that you guys may have misunderstood,” Elise said in an awkward tone.

“What do you mean?” The woman who criticized her earlier side-eyed Elise.

“The God’s Chosen Girl that you were talking about... Maybe she didn’t understand the way of stone gambling either,” Elise said.

At once, Faye seemed speechless.

How embarrassing it was for the Anderson Family!

At once, the woman covered her mouth with a hand before laughing hysterically. "Faye, this sister of yours from the countryside is truly amusing. We've already said how impressive the God's Chosen Girl was, and she could still spew such nonsense? How funny is she?"

As she said that, she threw an arm on Faye's shoulder before reminding her, "Faye, I advise that you send your sister back as soon as possible. Otherwise, she'll continue to embarrass the Anderson Family!"

Hearing that, Faye could only reply in a helpless manner, "I have no choice either, Celina. She's the true daughter after all. How can I decide for her?"

"True or not, it's fine for an elder sister to teach the younger. Why do you care so much about other factors? If you don't dare to teach her, I will help you put this disrespectful b*tch in her place!"

Celina had heard of stories from Faye where Elise bullied her. Now that she pulled that act earlier, Celina thought that Elise must think of them as easy targets to bully. Hence, she strutted toward Elise as she raised her arm.

At this moment, Danny was ready to counter the attack. If Celina dared to lay a finger on Elise, he'd teach her a lesson.

Although he wouldn't hit women, he would have ways to embarrass her enough.

The woman's arm was dangling in the air, and just as it was about to land on the target, the door suddenly creaked. "Mr. Bailey is here..."

"Mr. Bailey?" Upon hearing that name, Celina immediately retracted her hand before brushing her clothes. She was also quick to put on a smile to show the image of a graceful young miss.

"Damn, you sure are talented in acting, aren't you?" Danny sneered.

Celina simply glared at him, but she didn't bother to reply as she focused on the door while having on her best smile.

Finally, under everyone's attention, Mr. Bailey slowly entered the venue.

He didn't seem young; he looked like he was in his thirties or forties. His hair was side-parted like the typical successful man and he donned a tailor-fitted suit. Besides that, his cloak seemed to be made of real fur. However, he seemed to be a little weary. With his long legs, he casually strutted across the room filled with people.

Not only did he carry the dream of many young ladies, but he also soured critics of other men.

“This is the founder of Smith Co. He truly is distinguishable.”

“I heard that Kenneth Bailey is completely in charge of this gem auction event, hence why this event doesn’t have to be held at that countryside venue. That venue would be less pleasant no matter the food or stay.”

“Has anyone calculated how many properties Smith Co. owns in Landred City?”

“That’s uncountable. After the company settled down in Landred, the entire city’s economy improved so much that it was comparable to Cittadel. After a few years, Cittadel will become a different city!”

“Really?! That must be the pride of Landred City. No wonder all the women in the city want to marry Kenneth. If I was born a female, I would dream of that too! Haha...”

As Elise half-heartedly listened to that conversation, her gaze followed that man who had an executive figure.

Smith Co... It was Smith Co. again!

Since he sent people to get and gift the land for her, why did he act like he didn’t know her?

Or was he the kind of person who would show goodwill to all new forces?

[Bring Your A Game, Mr Chapter 476 Read online](#)

Chapter 476 Long Lost Biological Brother?

At this moment, the man from the land auction yesterday made his appearance again.

“Miss Sinclair.” The man sounded as gentle as he was.

“Oh, you again?” Elise said in an amused tone, “Are you going to give me another piece of land today?”

After saying that, she glanced at Faye, making the latter irritated.

“That’s not it.” The man let out a low chuckle. “I’m representing Mr. Bailey to invite you to the VIP room.”

“The VIP room huh. It’s unexpected that this young girl is a guest of Kenneth Bailey!”

“Yeah. I remembered the last person who had the VIP room was some boss from South Africa!”

Many people were whispering among themselves, but Elise paid no heed to it. Not to mention, she wasn't interested in the others' conversation, so she followed the man.

Behind her was Faye who gritted her teeth and clenched her fists so hard that her fingernails dug into her flesh.

Damn it! Why is Elise Sinclair always so lucky?

How did she manage to get involved with a man like Kenneth Bailey?!

Let me watch and see. With Alexander absent, she's accepting other men's advances so easily. A born b*tch like her will get exposed sooner or later.

"Faye! Didn't you say that your sister is from the countryside and that she doesn't know anything? How is she an acquaintance of Kenneth Bailey?"

Kenneth was Celina's dream man. How on earth did that countryside woman manage to taint him?!

"How would I know?!" As Faye herself was mad, her tone was a little harsh. After saying that, she realized that she had lost her composure, so she quickly adjusted her tone.

"I'm sorry, Celina. I'm just too mad because of Elise. For a man like Kenneth, only you will match up to him. However, my sister is used to seducing men with her bewitching ways. I don't know what to do with her either..."

Though she said that, she was thinking otherwise in her heart. If Kenneth is interested in a dumb sh*t like you, he must be blind and deaf!

Hearing that, Celina became fueled with anger.

"Elise Sinclair, was it?! Just you wait!"

...

Meanwhile, Elise and the others quickly arrived at the VIP room.

"Miss Sinclair, if there's anything you need, you can let the waiter outside know. They will accommodate your needs to the best of their abilities. I have other things to tend to, so I'll take my leave for now."

As the man said that, he nodded to Danny and the others as a greeting. When his gaze swept past Clement, it stayed for an extra second.

Coincidentally, Elise noticed the one-second pause. At once, she called out to him.

"Hold on, you have not told me what your name is. I can't be calling out 'hey' to you all the time, can I?"

“My bad.” The man came back before saying courteously, “I’m Johnny Smith. You can just call me Johnny, Miss Sinclair.”

“Johnny Smith?” Danny chuckled before he gave Clement a nudge. “He shares the same surname as you. Is he your long-lost biological brother?”

At this moment, Clement seemed indifferent as he remained silent.

Meanwhile, Johnny offered a small smile before he explained. “You’ve misunderstood. My surname isn’t really Smith. That is just my code name.”

“Oh, I see.” Nodding his head, Danny continued to humor Clement. “You’re both Smiths. If you go over to Smith Co., you may even become cooler than him. Don’t you think so?”

“Not possible,” Clement said briefly.

Hearing that, Danny pursed his lips before saying, “You can’t even take a joke. You’re no fun.”

Letting out a low chuckle, Johnny made his way out of the room.

After they got seated, the gem auction began.

The place that Elise and the others were at was at the left corner of the second floor, and they could clearly see Johnny hosting the event.

In no time, the best seat on the second floor was also occupied.

As Elise turned to look over, her eyes met those of Kenneth’s dark ones.

As it was her first time seeing Kenneth in person, she couldn’t understand why she felt that that pair of eyes were very familiar.

On the other hand, Kenneth didn’t show any expression. He simply raised his chin slightly as a sign of greeting.

Truth was, only he himself knew how guilty he was.

He was scared of facing Elise as he might reveal the gentleness that Alexander would show.

Since she accepted their invitation, she nodded in response as a token of appreciation.

Through an unintentional glance, Danny caught the interaction between the two. Obviously, he saw that as a form of flirting.

Without saying a word, he walked between them to block Kenneth's gaze before giving him a warning look.

It was signifying that Elise already had a partner, so Kenneth should keep his eyes to himself before Danny broke his leg.

As Kenneth's eyes met Danny's, he gave him a small smile before looking away without any change in expression.

"Good move," Danny mumbled.

At that moment, the first item for auction was already presented.

The stone weighed around 400 kilograms. One of the top corners on the left was worn out, showing hints of a glimmering green inside. The color seemed genuine and shiny, attracting the eyes of everyone.

"I will not be wrong on this. This is definitely a glassy species jadeite!"

At once, people at the venue started a commotion.

However, there were also people opposing that idea. "It might look good on the outside, but unimpressive on the inside. It may not be so great once you take a look inside."

"Is that possible? It's such a heavy stone. Even if only half of it is jadeite, it will be worth a lot!"

"Well... that will be the case if it's half. If it's just that corner and it's just plain stone inside, you will be losing a lot of money!"

Though everyone was discussing it, the price of such a stone would typically be much more expensive than those that couldn't be seen from the outside.

Nobody could say for sure if it was as perfect as it seemed on the outside. There was a big possibility that there would be spacings inside, and the jadeite would only fill up less than five percent. In that case, it would really be no different than a stone by the roadside.

After Elise took a glance, she retracted her gaze before taking a sip of the coffee that the server brought over.

Though the stone had a possibility of having jadeite inside, it wasn't anything impressive. However, the coffee was not bad. It was thick yet tasty, and had a good aftertaste. It reminded her of the older days when she used to sell coffee.

Nevertheless, those people on the ground floor thought that the stone was a chance to become rich, so the auction price went up higher and higher. After a few offers, the deal was sealed at forty million.

“Wow. That wasn’t cheap,” Elise commented.

No wonder when Faye and Celina were talking about stone gambling, they kept saying that the rich would dominate the auction. In this field, one must allocate at least one or two hundred million. Otherwise, they wouldn’t be able to cover the loss.

Later on, the few other stones that were auctioned next were just glanced through by Elise as she didn’t bother to participate in any of them.

Noticing that, Faye looked up with a discriminating gaze before saying, “I knew that she was uneducated. What difference would sitting in a VIP room make? It can’t even hide her lack of class!”

Toward the end, a piece of stone that had a special shine to it was put on auction.

The stone was covered with a thick layer of moss, but the stone itself showed a hint of red. When light shined on the stone, the light would get refracted in various directions. It didn’t seem like it had jadeite in it, but it looked like a mineral ore.

The stone was almost the same size as the first one. However, it looked like an ore, so it caused a wave of sighs among the audience.

After that, the starting price was announced at 280,000 while the ground floor stayed completely silent.

Meanwhile, someone on the second floor spoke up, “500,000. I want that!”

The person who spoke was none other than Elise.

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Chapter 477 What a Scheming Man!

Elise was not as calm as she was during the first half of the auction. Instead, she stood up in excitement as she made her way to the railings. She held onto the railings with both of her hands before craning to look downward. Her slightly childish voice had attracted the crowd’s attention as they lifted their gaze toward her.

The guests on the second floor were usually wealthy or influential people, so the crowd was interested to find out who was the lady who had such good taste.

However, upon realizing that the woman who made the bid was a stranger to them and that her companions were all young men around her age whom they could not recognize, the crowd burst out in laughter.

“Haha! Whose prodigal son—oh no, I mean prodigal daughter—is this? Which family allowed their prodigal daughter to come here and embarrass herself?”

“She has an exquisite look, but alas, she’s ignorant and even lacks basic knowledge. Hey, young chick, do you even know what high-quality jadeites look like? Only those with a pale surface are valuable. If you bid this piece of stone back, I’m afraid your father will be driven mad by you!”

A man stretched his neck and pretended to be ‘kind’, which immediately caused the others to burst out laughing again.

And because of that, no one from the first floor increased the bid, and the bid price remained at 500,000 throughout an entire minute as the crowd continued laughing at Elise.

Elise glanced across the hall and smiled in a self-deprecating manner.

If only she had known that no one would increase the bid, she would’ve asked for 300,000 directly as she’d be able to save 200,000.

Elise almost had the game in her hand, and even Johnny, who was on the stage, wore a smile and was about to congratulate her.

Just then, a cold male voice emerged from a room at the right and broke the silence.

“880,000.”

The voice was deep yet rich, and the volume was just loud enough to travel across the entire hall so that everyone could hear him clearly.

The crowd turned to the source of the voice to look at the second idiot at the scene. There, they saw Kenneth, who was standing beside the railing looking down at the jadeite while holding a pair of white gloves in his hand.

Elise frowned as she had a bad hunch.

Meanwhile, Celina was engulfed by jealousy downstairs. “It’s Kenneth. Why did he start bidding too?”

“Faye, your sister even bewitched Kenneth. She’ll definitely become the laughing stock by buying this kind of useless stone!”

Someone from the crowd teased in a loud voice, "How thoughtful is Mr. Bailey to willingly undertake the humiliation for the sake of a pretty girl!"

"What nonsense are you talking about?! Do you think Kenneth is of the same kind as you jerks? Lowly creatures!" Celina defended Kenneth outspokenly and offended the majority of the guests at the spot with her comment.

"Ha! It seems like Mr. Bailey has quite a number of lovers. But alas, there is a large disparity between their ranks just like how one is seated on the second floor while the other is on the first floor!"

"Exactly! She's already downgraded to the first floor just like us, so what is she still being snobbish about? Does she really think of herself as Mrs. Bailey?"

"Although the lady upstairs is a prodigal, at least she has an attractive look. As for this woman on the lower floor, anyone who takes her in would be doing an act of kindness already. Hahaha..."

Men typically liked dirty talks when they gathered together. In addition, Celina had just insulted them, so they did not show mercy all the more and abused this socialite of Landred City as if she was worthless.

Celine was boiling in anger and was about to retort when Faye quickly stopped her as she did not want to be implicated in this argument between opposite genders. "Calm down, Celina! Kenneth is still looking at the scene from upstairs, so don't give him the impression that you're a reckless woman! Those men are not whom you want to please, so don't care about what they say. Remember this—only compete with those in the same league and don't waste time arguing with insignificant people!"

Hearing that, Celina nodded in all seriousness. "You're right. I shouldn't argue with the insignificant ones. It's not worth being angry with those idiots! Luckily you're around, Faye. Otherwise, I would be embarrassing myself in front of Kenneth!"

Faye smiled stiffly. "Don't mention it."

Yeah, you nearly embarrassed me too! Do you even have a brain? You're even more stupid than a pig!

Of course, Faye wouldn't possibly convey her true feelings. After sorting out her emotions, she held Celina's hand again and resumed the intimate state between them.

At that moment, Elise increased the bid again tentatively, "900,000."

"980,000." Kenneth glanced toward Elise with subtle scorn in his eyes.

"1 million."

“1.2 million.”

Elise furrowed her brows. This guy easily gave out a piece of land worth 90 million before this. Why does he want to fight me over this now?

Elise really wanted to bid this item personally to humiliate Faye.

“Mr. Bailey, what about giving this gem to me?” Elise asked with a smile.

“I’m sorry, Miss Sinclair. I have my eye on it too. I’m so sorry for not being able to fulfill your wish,” Kenneth replied with a polite smile.

Elise’s eyes darkened. “This is just an ore and it’s not even some rare gem. Why do you want to fight me for it?”

Kenneth answered, “Since that’s the case, why do you want to fight for it, Miss Sinclair?”

Elise gritted her teeth. “There’s no need to explain to you. Or, did you give me the land previously so that I’ll give in to you in this gem auction event? Sorry to disappoint you. I can return you the land but I’ll definitely not give away something that I’ve had my eyes on.”

Kenneth was startled for a moment and wore a subtle smile thereafter. “You’re very discerning, Miss Sinclair. But you’ve already accepted the land, so you naturally have to give up on this ore.”

What a scheming man. He actually set me up! I should ask Alexander to beat him up when he comes!

“Hey, you fellow! Have you heard of ‘ladies first’?! Aren’t you embarrassed fighting over something with a lady?” As soon as Danny said that, Elise shouted sulkily, “4 million!”

The crowd on the first floor could not make out what the bickering on the second floor was about, but they heard Elise’s yell as clear as day.

This woman must have lost her mind to spend 4 million on an obviously useless ore! Rich people are indeed arrogant!

The crowd wondered which wealthy family in Landred City actually raised such a spendthrift.

After shouting the price, Elise gazed toward Kenneth with an arrogant and threatening look.

Looking downward, Kenneth wore a resigned expression and seemed to heave a sigh.

“Kenneth.” Just then, a shrewd woman dressed in a modest office suit, who had remained silent all this while, spoke up behind Kenneth, “Given your identity, it will only bring this lady more trouble if you continue to be entangled with her. So please stop fighting with her. You’ve already done enough for what you should do.”

Kenneth furrowed his thick eyebrows.

All he wanted to do was to snatch the raw ore away so that Elise would not be embarrassed...

But given Elise’s stubbornness, she obviously intended to fight with him until the end.

With one hand placed on the railing, Kenneth looked downward at Johnny, who was standing on the stage and still waiting for the former to increase the bid as he had not grasped the situation yet.

After remaining silent for a moment, Kenneth decided to give up eventually.

His eyes darkened as he spoke in an inherent victorious voice, “This jadeite belongs to Miss Sinclair!”

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Chapter 478 Are You Trying to Be Annoying or Pleasing?

Throughout the entire auction, Elise only bid for that piece of ore. She did that not because there were no better gems, but she just did not want to go up against Kenneth, the scheming man again.

She reckoned this man, who controlled the pulse of the city’s economy, might have set up more traps for her. As such, she could only restrain her temperament lest Kenneth seized another chance.

However, Elise was distressed as she was not able to act as she pleased. At this thought, she couldn’t help shooting a fierce glare at Kenneth when she saw him stand up at the end of the event.

Perceiving the sharp glare from the opposite side, Kenneth instinctively glanced in that direction and was innocently stunned upon seeing Elise’s fierce look. What?

After walking out of the private room, Kenneth did not leave immediately but stayed at the entrance.

Elise bumped into Kenneth the moment she came out, and her beautiful eyes were filled with murderous intentions at once.

“Why are you staring at me like this, Miss Sinclair?” Kenneth asked with a half-smile.

“How else should I look at you then?” Elise continued with a straight face, “A gentleman would not steal the apple of someone else’s eye.”

Kenneth looked down and smiled faintly while Elise was completely pissed off.

He’s already at this age. Don’t tell me he thinks he looks handsome by smiling like this!

“Why don’t you understand it as I’m doing so to please you?” Kenneth blurted suddenly.

“Because I’m already engaged, and I don’t need anyone besides my fiancé to please me. If there’s anyone who does, I’ll deem him as an idiot,” Elise retorted with a strong attitude.

An idiot?

Should I be happy or angry?

Kenneth inhaled deeply in resignation while lifting his brows and recklessly eyed Elise up.

“Good job, Elise!”

Just then, Danny walked up and clapped in front of Kenneth.

Kenneth seemed to have thought of something. Then, he closed his eyes with a sullen look and walked toward the staircase.

When the shrewd woman who was following behind Kenneth walked past Elise, Elise couldn’t help glancing at her.

Right at that moment, Kenneth paused out of the blue and turned around. Coincidentally, his eyes met hers.

At that moment, the corner of Elise’s mouth twitched as she felt awkward. Thereafter, Kenneth teased her with a cunning and smug smile. “So you can’t bear to see me leave?”

“Uhhh... You’ve misunderstood...” Elise attempted to explain.

“You don’t have to explain. I understand what’s going on. Don’t worry, we’ll meet again soon.”

After saying this ambiguous statement, Kenneth directly walked downstairs without giving Elise a chance to finish her sentence.

With that, Elise was rendered speechless as she thought that the majority of men were narcissistic and snobbish no matter how well-educated they were.

But to give that more thought, Alexander did not seem to have this problem. Nonetheless, he was extreme on another level—he overly distanced himself from both men and women.

Elise's mood finally lightened up as she thought of Alexander. But following that, she started worrying about him as she wondered how things were at his end.

And so, she took out her phone and sent Alexander a message on WhatsApp. 'Have you finished your work?'

On the other hand, Kenneth's phone rang the moment he got into the car.

He took out the phone and wore a sweet smile immediately when he saw the notification.

The woman beside Kenneth cast a glance at him while confusion flashed through her eyes.

"Melody, I know you were disdain me just now," Kenneth said with his eyes fixed on the phone screen.

"You've mistaken, sir. I'm just wondering whether all men like to tease their girlfriends by showing a sudden change of emotions," the woman named Melody answered with a poker face.

"You don't understand. To humans, this is known as romance," Kenneth replied.

"Indeed. I don't understand," Melody said in a cold voice.

Kenneth's enthusiasm decreased upon being poured cold water by Melody. Putting away his phone, he said in a calm manner, "Melody, do you know you're such a wet blanket?"

"Now I do," Melody answered robotically.

Kenneth still wanted to continue arguing with Melody but was quick to realize that he would only be finding trouble if he debated with this subordinate who did not need a relationship. As such, he laughed it off.

Only those who were in a relationship would taste the goodness of it, so it was unnecessary to force others to understand what he was feeling.

After typing 'I'll be right back' in the chat box, Kenneth put away his phone and signaled Melody to begin to report.

...

On the other hand, after the auction was over, there was still a big crowd who stayed in the hall with one sole motive—to witness the extraction of minerals from the ore.

Most of the ores which were bid at the auction would have their mineral extraction performed right on the spot to fulfill the curiosity of the buyer and spectators.

Of course, besides the spectators, a small group of the crowd would be jewelry sellers who aimed to purchase high-quality jades. Once a desirable mineral was extracted, they would buy it unhesitantly. Because of that, some would even make a ton of money before even walking out of the auction center.

The extraction of minerals from its ore was an interesting process as that was the key event of betting on the ore. Once the mineral was extracted, the truth of whether it was a valuable mineral or a useless one would be revealed. Heaven and hell were merely one step apart.

Elise too wanted to join in the fun, so she asked Danny to carry the ore that she had bid and spectate the results of the other bidders first.

At the extraction event, the first mineral being worked on was the first ore that was bid at the auction. The bidder had spent 40 million to purchase the ore, so if its content was not a valuable one, he would not be able to recover the cost.

The technician who performed the extraction was extra careful when handling the jade ore and only dared to manually polish its surface in a gentle manner.

Everyone held their breath as they observed the technician's action closely with their gazes fixed on his hand.

However, Elise shook her head and started feeling sorry for the buyer even before the jade was revealed.

True enough, when the technician finished polishing ten percent of the ore, the green color disappeared.

Only one-tenth of the outer layer was jade, let alone the inner layer. Since the volume of jade did not even reach ten percent of the ore, the content would not possibly be a valuable jade, and the real value would be far less than 40 million. As such, the buyer pulled a long face at once.

Truth was, the buyer was an owner of an old jade shop. In recent years, diamonds became the latest craze all over the world, so the business of his old shop had been deteriorating and could hardly be sustained. Because of that, he decided to bet all his fortune on the ore, hoping that it could revive his dying business.

Unfortunately, his old business was completely doomed now.

The family business of the Shaw Family was going to be ruined in his hands!

While the people around him were consoling him, he could not hear anything anymore despite whether the consolation was genuine or not.

His mind was running wild in a buzz, and it seemed as if he would collapse at any moment.

Elise gazed toward Tom Shaw calmly, took a deep breath, and walked toward him. "Hi, Mr. Shaw."

The man lifted his eyes to glance at Elise and lowered his head again in dejection. "Even you're here to laugh at me?"

After all, he was a man in his thirties and could have been Elise's uncle at his age, so he thought Elise, as a junior, should at least preserve some of his dignity.

"I'm a daughter of the Andersons of Athesea." Elise thought this identity would sound more credible.

Sure enough, it was only then did Tom stare at her properly, but his eyes were still filled with confusion. "I don't think we've met, Miss Anderson."

"It's not too late to meet now." Elise went straight to the point. "I would like to acquire Shaw's Jewelry Co."

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Chapter 479 A Miracle Happened

Elise had done a thorough investigation. Back then, the Shaw Family became prosperous through betting on rare stones. However, luck had not been on Tom's side after the business was passed to him.

In fact, the performance of Shaw's Jewelry Co. had been hitting new lows since five years ago. With that, the business was on the edge in recent years.

Not only that, the company was also involved in various scandals in the past few years such as trading fake and radioactive jewelry. On the most serious occasion, they were even forced to cease business.

The 40 million that Tom used to purchase the ore today was most probably all the cash flow available in Shaw's Jewelry Co. But alas, he still failed.

Tom stared at Elise with a complicated look.

Although Elise looked nonchalant, she wore a serious countenance, so Tom could tell that she was definitely not teasing him.

Now that the cash flow was damaged, Shaw's Jewelry Co. was actually as good as going bankrupt, so of course, Tom would be more than willing to agree to Elise's acquisition. However, he couldn't bring himself to pass this doomed business to a sincere girl like Elise because he would not be able to clear his conscience.

As such, Tom sighed and said dejectedly, "To be very honest, Shaw's Jewelry Co. has been performing terribly these few years and it can go bankrupt anytime. You'll be pouring money down the drain by acquiring the business."

"Who knows. There might be a miracle," Elise answered with a smile.

"A miracle?" Tom laughed in a self-deprecating manner. "Is that even possible?"

Hearing that, Elise still remained calm in a kind manner. "How is it not possible? Mr. Shaw, you of all people should know very well that as much as miracles might rarely occur, they can happen anytime, anywhere, don't they?"

Tom had taken over Shaw's Jewelry Co. for more than ten years and had always run the business with discrete and integrity. The brand and product quality were not only famous in Landred City but in the entire country too.

This factor alone had saved Tom the effort of advertising and building the brand image in the process of regaining its former glory. As long as they could secure enough capital and obtain a presentable gem, Shaw's Jewelry Co. would be able to come back to life.

Of course, Tom knew what Elise was implying, but it was even harder to get a real gem than to earn a fortune. In fact, that was his intention too, but fate had brought him a useless stone. Even fate was not on his side, so what else could he do?

Should he buy one from the others?

Rare things were precious, and even if the others were willing to sell, he would not be able to fork out the money anymore.

Shaw's Jewelry Co. was doomed!

"Let's have a gentlemen's agreement then." Elise wore a confident smile.

"A gentlemen's agreement?" Tom asked in confusion.

Elise patted the stone that Danny was carrying. "If a rare gem is extracted from here, you'll sell your business to me. What do you think?"

Tom looked at the ore and thought it was obviously not one that contained a rare gem.

Nonetheless, Elise's condition was no harm to him, so there was no reason for him to reject it.

He actually wished to be a nasty person for one time and seize this absolute steal. However, he thought there was no such thing as a free lunch, so he had no other option.

Just then, the sound of exclamation came forth from the crowd which was spectating the mineral extraction process.

"This is an awesome one! Not only is it crystal clear, but it even has an emerald-green color too. This is definitely high-class jadeite. The Anderson Family of Athesea sure has a brilliant daughter with a good eye! "

"This must be the most perfect jade extracted this time!"

The spectators were all impressed by Faye.

Meanwhile, Faye lifted her chin arrogantly and enjoyed the fawning from the crowd as she thought this was the way she ought to be treated.

"It's our turn now. Let the show begin!" Elise curled her lips faintly and said to Tom, "Just stay here and wait for me. The miracle is happening soon."

With that, she pushed her way through the crowd and walked straight up to the table where minerals were extracted.

While the people in Landred City were not aware of the complication between Elise and Faye, they could recognize the former, who spent 4 million buying a useless stone. Seeing Elise walk past them, the crowd wore a disdainful smile unanimously as they were waiting to watch the show.

"Are you only here now because you know what you got is a useless stone? Are you afraid of extracting the mineral in public?" Celina sneered in sarcasm.

“Perhaps I’m just waiting for you guys to extract yours first. After all, we’ll only know how amazing the real gem is when there’s a comparison.” After Elise finished saying that with a half-smile, she gave Danny a look.

Danny immediately understood her meaning and placed the ore on the table.

“Sir, please use the smallest tool to polish the surface manually.”

Faye and her companions shook their heads subtly as they thought the Anderson Family was going to be embarrassed again.

Nonetheless, the technician did not give much comment and started polishing the ore diligently using the smallest tool.

Truthfully, the technician too did not have high hopes for this stone and initially thought that he could just casually dissect it using a machine and call it a day after this. However, little did he expect Elise to raise such a request.

As such, he had no choice but to fulfill her request because as an employee, he did not dare to offend anyone.

As the outer layers were gradually turned to powder upon being polished, the original color of the stone was exposed.

Immediately, the technician was stunned, and at the same time, someone in the front row exclaimed in surprise, “This is a miracle! This is an incredible miracle!”

Standing behind the crowd, Tom craned forward and gulped.

Is a miracle really happening to me?!

“I-It’s an orange jade!”

The spectators pushed each other and formed a circle around the middle.

“This is not an orange jade but a blood jade! Oh my goodness, I can’t believe I’m so lucky to witness this legendary rare gem!”

“What?! A blood jade?!”

“It’s true! It’s really a blood jade! No wonder even the surface looked reddish—the color has even penetrated to the outer layer!”

At once, everyone’s attention was attracted to Elise’s jade, and all of them became jade fanatics at this moment.

On the other hand, Elise showed no change in her expression as she waved her hand and said, "Please don't stop and carry on, sir."

It was only then that the technician snapped out of the daze and continued his work.

This time around, there was a complete change in his attitude. He treated the task seriously and was extremely cautious when handling each part.

It was already one o'clock in the afternoon when the ore was done being polished. However, not only did the number of spectators not reduce but there were even some jewelry traders who turned back to the scene upon hearing the news.

When the technician was done with his job and stood aside, the crowd could finally see the blood jade clearly—the jade actually made up 80 percent of the original ore!

Not only was it a blood jade, which could rarely be encountered across a century, but it even came in such a big size!

Most of the people were mesmerized by the jade as they fixed their gazes on it as if they were bewitched.

Carrying the high-class ore in her arms, Faye dug her nails so deep that even her palms were going to bleed.

How is this possible?! This b*tch can't possibly be this lucky!

Immediately, a shrewd trader made his offer. "Miss, I would like to offer 20 million to buy your ore. This is a good bargain as you'll earn 16 million instantly."

"I can't believe you actually dare to offer a mere 20 million. Are you bullying this lady thinking that she's ignorant? Miss, don't sell it to him and sell it to me instead. I'll offer 50 million!"

"I'll offer 70 million!"

"100 million, and I'll pay cash on the spot!"

However, Elise shook her head calmly and said, "I'm sorry, but I won't sell it."

"Can I at least make a reservation to buy jewelry made of this jade?"

"Yeah! I'd like to make a reservation too!"

"Hmm... I don't think I can make this decision on my own. As for how this jade should be handled, I'll leave it for Mr. Tom Shaw to make the call," Elise declared loudly.

With that, she looked in Tom's direction.

Those who received her gaze automatically made way. When Tom met Elise's gaze from afar, he understood her intention immediately.

Agitatedly, Tom responded with an expression that implied that he would make an appropriate arrangement for the situation. Thereafter, he announced in a loud voice, "Three-quarters of the blood jade will be used to make jewelry while the remaining portion will be displayed in Shaw's Jewelry Co. as the store's signature!"

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Chapter 480 You Sure Show No Mercy, Mr Bailey

Under the crowd's gazes of disbelief, Elise carried the jadeite, which was blood-red from inside out, and led Danny to walk up to Tom.

"Here's your product, Mr. Shaw."

Tom couldn't believe this was actually happening, and he was so afraid that once he spoke, this dream would shatter.

Heaving a sigh, Elise walked closer to Tom and snapped her fingers in front of him. "Wake up, Mr. Shaw. This is not a dream. If you still don't receive this blood jade, we're going to sneak away with it!"

It was only then did Tom's tears turn into a smile as he reached out his hands to take over the mineral.

40 pounds was actually not too heavy, but Tom felt as if he was carrying a thousand pounds in his hands as this was the hope and future of the entire Shaw's Jewelry Co.

Just as he was staring at the jade entrancing his own picture, a slender hand which had a name card between the fingers came into sight. The next second, the fingers parted, causing the name card to fall on the jade. Then, the hand retreated.

Tom lifted his head to see Elise lifting her hand beside her ear and making a calling pose. "Mr. Shaw, this mineral is yours now. As for whether we should continue talking about our business, I'll wait for your call."

After saying that, Elise even teased the other jewelry traders. "The amount of jewelry is limited, so they are first come, first served!"

At once, Tom was heavily surrounded by the traders. At that moment, he was so overjoyed that he did not even know how to respond.

It had been too long since he received this kind of treatment!

An ore that was bid at 40 million contained blood jade worth several hundred million—this was far more than a huge return with a small investment.

However, this ‘Miss Anderson’ actually gave it directly to him without even hesitating.

In fact, Tom already had an answer deep down, but since Elise was not in a hurry, he decided to remain reserved first so that both parties could have more time to think it through.

The sky was already dark when Elise left the auction hall. She was in a good mood today, so she initiated to be the driver and went for a joyride.

Of course, the task of parking the car naturally fell to her toward the end.

After parking the car, Elise walked leisurely toward the lift while fidgeting with the keys and humming songs.

However, not long after she walked away from the car, she heard the sound of footsteps, which was neither too heavy nor too soft, emerging from behind out of the blue.

“Aghh—”

A man’s miserable wail spread across every corner of the basement car park, which was filled with dead silence.

With a mere ploy, Elise successfully ambushed the man who was tailing her, and she stepped on him after seizing him.

As the man was lying on the ground, his face was sandwiched between the floor and Elise’s sole. Next to his face was his blade which was hit off by Elise. The glistening blade was extremely sharp, but fortunately, the man only cut a few strands of Elise’s hair and did not manage to hurt her.

Elise exerted more force as she stepped on the man. “Tell me, which of my enemies sent you?”

The man’s face was almost distorted while being stepped on by Elise. Cold sweat gathered on his face, but he gritted his teeth and refused to say a word.

“Refuse to talk, huh?” Elise’s gaze was drawn to the blade on the ground, and she picked it up after merely casting one glance at it.

With her eyes fixed on the man's shoulder, Elise lifted the blade in her hand calmly and was just about to stab the man when a race car sped toward them and stopped steadily 2 feet away from them.

The posture of Elise and the man was clearly exposed under the headlights of the car as Elise felt her eyes blinded by the lights.

Just then, the driver opened the door and got out of the car. It was only after the man walked closer did Elise realize that the person was actually Kenneth.

"I told you we'll meet again," Kenneth blurted casually.

"Why are you here?" At that moment, Elise even suspected that this fellow was tailing her.

"This is my hotel, so why can't I be here?" After saying that with a smile, Kenneth ignored Elise's despising stare and turned to look at the man beneath her foot.

"Miss Sinclair, are you thinking of carrying out an illegal execution in my hotel?" Kenneth asked.

"Can't I?" Remaining still, Elise placed her hand, which was holding the blade, on her bent knee and swayed it. She narrowed her eyes and had a mischievous idea. "By the way, Mr. Bailey, I'm staying in your hotel but I was attacked by someone in the car park and even nearly lost my life. Shouldn't you be responsible for this?"

"Of course, I should." Kenneth smiled. "I wonder if Miss Sinclair is hurt anywhere and if I should arrange for a doctor immediately."

"That's unnecessary. I just lost a few strands of hair." Elise was used to being casual already, so she blurted those words. However, she immediately thought something was not right, so she quickly changed her statement. "But! Our body is a precious gift from our parents, so even minor injuries ought to be taken seriously. Don't you even think of taking this lightly!"

"Ah, I see... so you lost a few strands of hair..." Kenneth lowered his eyes thoughtfully.

She's such an agile fighter, yet she still lost a few strands of hair. This shows how brutal the man on the floor is, and he's obviously targeting to take her life. Since that's the case—

Kenneth's eyes turned cold at once and he gave off a murderous aura when he lifted his head again. Seeing that, Elise was stunned.

By the time she regained her composure, Kenneth had already taken the blade from her.

With that, the gleaming blade passed by Elise's face and in the next second, the man on the floor screamed in agony.

Without wasting his breath, Kenneth stabbed the knife into the man's thigh. Holding the handle of the blade, he twisted the blade in the man's flesh.

"Aghh—I'll tell! I'll tell you! I wanted to kidnap you and get the blood jade as a ransom." The man came clean at once.

Even Elise couldn't help frowning at the cruel scene.

However, she still remained rational and scowled coldly. "Who sent you?!"

"I-It's Faye Anderson. She sent me. Please stop twisting already... Please stop..."

The big guy who remained stubborn just now started whining in pain. He looked extremely pathetic with his tears, snivel, and sweat all mixed up.

Holding the knife, Kenneth lifted his head slowly to look at Elise. "Are you satisfied now?"

For some reason, Elise actually thought Kenneth was not that despicable anymore.

"Mm-hmm." Elise nodded in a daze.

Hearing that, Kenneth smiled at her before standing up steadily. Following that, the man on the floor let out another miserable wail again when Kenneth pulled out the blade as he stood up.

"Tsk." Elise's nose twitched as she derided, "You sure show no mercy, Mr. Bailey."

"This is the price he should pay for damaging your hair, Miss Sinclair." Kenneth looked into Elise's eyes with a faint smile. Then, he casually threw the blade aside, pulled out a handkerchief from his suit, and stuffed it into Elise's hand.

"Wipe your hand. Next time, just leave the rough ones to the guys. These situations are very... filthy. You may leave anytime, Miss Sinclair. I'll inform someone to come and clean the mess."

Elise stared at the handkerchief in her hand and had an indescribable feeling.

'Leave the rough ones to the guys.'

Alexander had said similar words before.

Why do I feel like there's something similar between them? Could it be my illusion?

Kenneth gulped uncontrollably as he stared at Elise's perplexed look.

At this point, he actually forgot his current identity as he stretched his arms behind Elise and held her head close to his. Then, he pressed his lips against hers.

Elise broke away from Kenneth in just one second and gave the latter a loud slap on his face, which caused his face to turn to the other side.