

# Coollest Girl in Town Chapter 51

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## Chapter 51

Jasmine's hands clenched silently as she inwardly comforted herself. *Don't be afraid. You're not the one who did this. It's Rita that b\*tch who did it, so don't worry about revenge. Even if Elise wants revenge, she will go after Rita.*

Although Jasmine felt so, when Elise appeared in front of her in the next second, she was still shocked, and she jumped up from the stool. "E-Elise, how are you here?"

Elise smirked evilly and sat down next to her. "What? Surprised to see me?"

Jasmine controlled her emotions before saying, "What's so surprising about that? It's just that I haven't seen you for a few days, so I'm a little surprised to see you all of a sudden."

"Is that so? I think you'd much prefer Elise to be locked up in the mountains and starve to death," Mikayla commented bitterly. She had already cursed Jasmine in her heart a million times. Who would have thought that Jasmine, a high school student, was actually vicious enough to do such a thing?

"What are you talking about? I don't understand a word of it." Jasmine was still trying to feign ignorance.

Elise did not have that much time to spend with her though. "It seems that you have amnesia and need me to remind you."

When Jasmine heard these words, her knees had already gone weak. She looked at Elise incredulously, but the latter only smiled slightly and recounted the whole story. Hearing the story, Jasmine stumbled and she fell on the ground. Elise looked at her from above and proclaimed, "Don't be afraid; I will settle the accounts between us one by one. But now, I just want to let you see how the thing you want most falls into my hands."

With that, she got up and said to Mikayla, "Help me watch her here. It will be my turn soon for the public speaking competition."

"Don't worry! Elise, I will keep an eye on her. You just do your best."

Elise did not look at Jasmine again, and after hearing the host read her name, she walked toward the stage. As she stood on the stage, all the spotlights hit her as if she was in control of this stage. Next, she held the microphone, and fluent pronunciation

came out of her mouth.

“Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Elise Sinclair...”

The moment her voice flowed out, it was as if she was playing a tape of a recorded speech. The audience below the stage all held their breath, their eyes fixed on her on the stage. Even Danny was also completely attracted to Elise.

“Young Master Griffith, I really didn’t expect that this ugly monster’s enunciation would actually be so good.” The person sitting next to Danny couldn’t help but speak, but in the next second, Danny shot an icy gaze over. So, that person immediately changed his tone. “Sorry, I misspoke. It’s Elise. Her enunciation is too good. If I didn’t know who she was, I would’ve thought she was professionally trained.”

Although these words were praising Elise, Danny inexplicably had a sense of pride too. “We can’t judge a book by its cover,” he said while looking at Elise on the stage. Even if her looks were not beautiful and were even rather ugly, it was difficult to cover up her talents. In fact, he found that he could no longer look at her with the same thoughts as before.

After Elise’s speech, the whole audience resounded with a burst of applause, while Elise smiled and bowed deeply to the audience below the stage before she came down. As soon as she stepped off the stage, Mikayla rushed forward. “Elise, you’re great! Your voice really sounds good and better than any of the public speaking tapes I’ve listened to.”

Moreover, the language teacher’s eyes were full of appreciation as well. “Good, Elise. Your speech was great. I haven’t heard such fluent enunciation for a long time.”

Although Elise had long been used to hearing words of praise, at this moment, she still felt a little shy. “Thank you, if it weren’t for you, I don’t think I would have come to this competition,” Elise said to the teacher very seriously.

The teacher looked at her with a gaze full of pride. “Good luck; I’m very optimistic about you.”

“Thanks.” Elise returned backstage, and at this moment, Jasmine’s face was ashen as she looked at Elise in a different light.

She used to think that her Chinese level was similar to Elise’s. Even if Beter said that her level was not the same as Elise’s, she never believed it until today when she

listened to Elise’s speech. Now, she realized that Beter’s words were euphemistic, and she and Elise were far too different. In fact, Elise was far above her, and she still foolishly thought that as long as Elise did not participate in this competition,

she would have a chance to win the prize. It was simply ridiculous because Elise's ability was simply impossible to surpass.

"I've lost, Elise," Jasmine's tone was very low and feeble. She slowly closed her eyes and continued, "I did all those things. It was a momentary lapse of reason that caused me to do those things that hurt you. Now you can dispose of me any way you want."

Elise smiled, but her smile didn't look too genuine. "Dispose of you? I never wanted to dispose of you."

When Jasmine heard this, she thought things would turn around for her, and she opened her eyes to look at Elise. However, the next words Elise said sent her to the depths of despair.

"Disposing of you will only dirty my hands, and I am the kind of person who is best at never doing anything myself. Instead, I do things by the hand of others."

Hearing this, Jasmine panicked. "What do you want? Elise, I'm telling you that my daddy is very powerful. If you dare to touch me, he will not let you go..."

"Then I'll wait for it. Enjoy your last day of freedom."

*From tomorrow onward, your nightmare will begin.*

With that, Elise turned and walked away. At this moment, Jasmine still did not understand Elise's words and thought that Elise was simply scaring her.

But little did she know that everything was already too late.

The Chinese Week competition came to an end, and without a doubt, Elise got the highest score overall, which caused quite a stir. The city's best foreign language universities were inquiring about her, and overnight, Elise became the talk of many prestigious schools.

"Elise, are we just going to let Jasmine go? Shouldn't she be given a serious punishment for doing something so outrageous?"

Mikayla was a bit puzzled, but Elise just smiled. "Don't worry! Everyone has to pay

the price for what they did."

Mikayla nodded in agreement. "Yes, so I always tell myself to be good."

The two smiled at each other and walked home together as the moonlight stretched their shadows.

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Chapter 52

A day had passed, and Jasmine spent the entire night in fear. When the sun rose, the Anders Residence kept getting visitors knocking at the main door.

“Open the door!”

“It is only right to pay up for what you owe! Stop hiding in the house.”

“Pay us back!”

The entire Anders Residence was jam-packed and surrounded by waves after waves of people. After the bankruptcy, the Anders were barely able to survive by selling their properties. With loan sharks coming over to their place, the Anders realized that it turned out to be Jasmine who had taken on usury with a steep interest rate.

“You’re such a disgrace to the family!” Angered, John slapped Jasmine forcefully. Upon feeling the searing pain on her cheek, she turned on the waterworks. Still, she couldn’t be bothered by it as she paid huge consequences to be able to take out a

loan.

Immediately, she kneeled with a loud thump. “Dad, help me! Please help me! I’ll be dead if you don’t!”

“I don’t have any money. Solve the problem that you created yourself!” Then, John rolled his sleeves and left in anger while Jasmine quickly ran after him before clinging onto his leg.

“Dad, I have no choice anymore. I took some pictures for them to be able to take out the loan...” When John heard Jasmine, he felt as if he was struck by lightning before he staggered a little. With complete shock, she stared at this daughter of his whom he had been spoiling ever since she was born.

“Jasmine, I really don’t know what to say to you anymore.” John was so furious he spat blood before he lost consciousness and fell to the ground.

“Dad... Dad!” Still, no matter how much Jasmine shouted, her father never answered. Although she dropped out of school, rumors about her were still being spread around the school without any signs of stopping.

“Have you guys heard that the Anders went bankrupt?”

"It's not just that! I also found out that she took a usurious loan, and those loan sharks went to her house to get their payment back. Her father got so pissed off he passed away!"

"I guess that's karma for Jasmine. After all, she used to boast a lot because her family was rich."

Since many students weren't happy with Jasmine's attitude back then, they all gathered together to gossip about her.

On the other hand, Elise also heard some rumors about Jasmine at school. Still, she wasn't bothered because it wasn't really related to her. Moreover, she was kind of in trouble right now.

Ever since Elise's outstanding performance during the Chinese Week's speech competition, many colleges reached out to her with all sorts of scholarship proposals to try to get her to enroll in their school. She had been accepting calls from colleges admission offices, but she rejected all offers by telling them that she had no interest in language majors.

"Elise, come over to mine tonight. I'll get my mom to prepare your favorite crawfish dish!" Mikayla leaned over with an excited look on her face and suggested when she noticed that school was about to be over.

Looking at the time, Elise agreed cheerfully. "Sure! I'll drop by your house after school."

"Great! You're the best, Elise!"

Grinning at her friend, Elise sent Matthew a text to notify him that he didn't have to pick her up from school. Although Elise had texted Matthew, she still noticed his car parked outside when she came out from the school with Mikayla. Then, Matthew got out of his car and walked toward them.

"Let me fetch you guys," he suggested. Upon hearing that, Elise turned toward Mikayla while Mikayla shrugged. "Sure. I'll ask my driver to leave so that the three of us can head back together."

Thus, Mikayla and Elise got into Matthew's car before they headed to Mikayla's place.

When the auto music player in the car started playing H's classic songs, Matthew

glanced at Elise from the rearview mirror. Right when he was about to say something, Mikayla exclaimed in shock, "Wow, you like H's music as well?!"

Shifting his gaze toward Mikayla, Matthew hummed a little. "I've been her fan for many years now."

Right then, Mikayla felt like she had found her soulmate. "Really? Me too! I took a liking to her after I heard her first song, *Abandoned Sea*. I've got all of her songs on loop in my phone."

"Really? I guess we all have similar interests." Matthew grinned. Upon hearing that, Mikayla turned toward Elise in shock. "Elise, do you like H's music as well?"

At this moment, Elise coughed a little as if she was trying to hide something. Still, she nodded when she met Mikayla's excited gaze. "I guess I do."

Immediately, Mikayla got even happier as she started rambling about her love toward H to Elise. She could still remember every song that H had ever released ever since her debut song, *Abandoned Sea*. Toward the end, Mikayla sighed. "I've been H's fan for many years now. Still, it's too bad that she never revealed her true identity to the public even until now, so I still don't know what she looks like. Nevertheless, I've been attracted to her music for many years now."

Matthew felt the same. "I'm curious about what a talented girl like her looks like. I wonder if I'll still have the chance to listen to her songs in the future."

Elise stared at those two, who looked as if they were deep in thoughts and kept quiet.

Matthew's car reached Mikayla's place in no time, and he entered the house along with Elise after Mikayla invited him in as well.

Mikayla's mother, Heidi, was a woman of gentle nature. Upon seeing Elise, she greeted in a friendly manner. "You must be Elise! Mikayla always talks about you. Welcome to our home!"

Elise smiled politely. "Thanks for inviting us over."

"Make yourselves at home, and drop by if you guys are free," Heidi said before she went to the kitchen to prepare dinner while Mikayla pulled Elise to her bedroom excitedly.

"Look, Elise! These are all H's albums. Besides the limited first and third-edition albums, I've already collected all of the other albums!"

Mikayla eagerly introduced Elise to all of her album collections before she took one of her favorite limited edition H albums and passed it to Elise. "I'll give you this as a present!"

Staring at the album, Elise could tell almost immediately that this was Mikayla's favorite. "I don't want to snatch my best friend's favorite album. It's better if you

take care of it. Besides, I have the first and third-edition albums at home. I'll bring them over for you next time."

Upon hearing that, Mikayla was over the moon. "Are you serious? Oh my God! Do you know that I've been wanting to get my hands on the limited first and third edition albums for a really long time? I couldn't get it even though I searched through many channels. I can't believe you had them all along! Elise, I love you so much!" She planted a kiss on Elise's cheek while Elise wiped it off with a disgusted look. "Your saliva got on my face!"

Still, Mikayla wasn't offended at all. At this moment, she was on cloud nine at the thought of being able to own all of H's albums.

Right then, Heidi came in with a plate of fruits. "What are you guys talking about? You look really happy."

Mikayla went forward and clung onto Heidi's arm cheerfully before she put on a mysterious facade. "It's a secret."

Heidi chuckled. "Oh? You're keeping secrets from me now?"

Still, she continued peeling lychees before passing them to Mikayla. "Mrs. Lester went to the market and brought your favorite lychees again. Try it."

"Thanks, Mom!" Mikayla gave some lychees to Elise, and the three of them started chatting

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Mikayla's father, Luke, came back around dinnertime. As everyone sat together around the dining room, Elise couldn't help but feel comfortable around them.

"Don't be shy, Elise. Make yourself at home." Luke then turned toward Matthew and said again, "Thank you guys for being our Mikayla's friends and taking care of her."

"Dad, do you know that Elise is super smart? She got first place in both the Mathematical Olympiad and Chinese Week's speech competition. She's literally my

idol!"

"You have much to learn from Elise, then."

Mikayla stuck her tongue out in embarrassment. "Of course. She's my idol, after all."

The warm sight of the family being chatty put Elise in an absentminded state, and to hide her emotions, she slightly lowered her head to keep her expression out of sight.

After dinner, Elise and Matthew left Mikayla's house.

On the way back, she couldn't help but lean back on her seat and close her eyes to pretend to be asleep. Nevertheless, the image of her being with her parents years ago kept flashing past her mind when she closed her eyes. Despite the memories being old, the images were still crystal clear.

Right then, Elise opened her eyes and looked out of the window before a streak of tears fell from her eye.

"It's the weekend tomorrow. Do you have any plans?" Matthew asked out of the blue, breaking her out of her thoughts. Immediately, Elise looked away and answered lightly, "I'll probably work on my assignments."

Then, Matthew asked again, "I heard that a new hot spring spa opened in the west region of Athesea. Do you want to go to the spa together?"

Elise shook her head. "Nah. I don't really like hot springs."

"What about a movie together? There's a new comedy movie that just premiered, and it's apparently really good."

At this moment, Matthew's enthusiasm undoubtedly changed Elise's last impression of him.

"Matthew, you—" Before she could finish her sentence, Matthew cut her off. "Please don't misunderstand me. I was just worried that you might be bored. Besides, my grandpa also wants us to accompany you more often."

"Thank you for your concern, but I have my own arrangements."

Matthew caught on to the hidden rejection behind Elise's words. *I guess maybe I was indeed a little too pushy.* "Alright. Let me know if you want to go anywhere, and I'll bring you there."

"Hmm."

When Matthew fetched Elise back home, they ran into Alexander, who was descending the stairs. Then Elise took the initiative and greeted him.

Glancing at Matthew, who was standing behind Elise, Alexander shifted his gaze nonchalantly before he spoke to Elise. "Grandpa wants to see you later, so go over to the study room once you're free."

"Alright. I'll head there right away." Then she went upstairs and headed toward the study room.

Once Elise left, the atmosphere between Alexander and Matthew tensed up as Alexander warned his brother, saying, "Do not try to approach Elise. She's not someone you can handle."

Nevertheless, Matthew didn't look bothered as he smirked. "What are you talking about? I'm just following grandpa's wishes and taking care of her. How could you misunderstand my actions?"

Then, he continued, "You appear to be free, so shouldn't you focus on company work? I heard that the company is going to start a new project, and a huge sum of money has been invested in it. You better be careful in case anything happens."

Although Alexander's eyes darkened, his face remained emotionless. "Remember what I said to you. Do not cross the line." It was clear that he was talking about Elise instead of the company.

Still, Matthew acted as if he hadn't heard him and declared in a nonchalant manner, "Don't worry, Alex. I won't get involved in company matters, and I'll know what to do for the others."

"You better."

Meanwhile, Elise knocked on the door to the study room.

"Come in..."

After getting permission to enter, she pushed the door to the study room open. "Grandpa, I heard you were looking for me."

Upon seeing Elise, Jonah smiled before waving at her. "Come here, Ellie."

Elise walked toward Jonah obediently before he passed her a document. "This is one of the company's important meetings, and I want you to attend the meeting with me tomorrow."

She was taken aback. "Me? I don't know anything, though."

Nevertheless, Jonah smiled warmly. "It's fine. Just pretend as if you're walking around with me."

Toward the end, Elise agreed to Jonas's proposal as tomorrow was the weekend, and she didn't have to go to school, anyway. Hence, off to the Griffith Group, she went with Jonas the following morning.

Griffith Group was one of Athesea's most famous multinational conglomerates, and it was situated right in the most bustling part of the city. They were involved in many industries and had investments from business economics and real estate to the entertainment industry.

On the other hand, this was Elise's first time entering the Griffith Tower. While trailing behind Jonas, she entered the elevator along with him to the meeting room on the top floor. Upon entering the room, everyone stood up. "Welcome, president!"

Jonas greeted them before requesting for them to sit down. "You guys don't have to be so uptight. Just continue with your meeting."

While everyone sat down, Alexander walked toward Jonas. "Why are you here, Grandpa?"

"I'm just here to take a look. You don't have to worry about me. I'll just listen at the back."

At that, Alexander had no choice but to return to the podium to continue the meeting. "Our upcoming project for the next season will be the crude oil extraction project in Aris..." Elise wasn't interested in listening to their business meeting, so she took her phone out and started playing games.

"The preparation for the project in Aris has been done, and we are progressing from the discussion with the Aris government. However, we are facing another serious problem right now."

Frowning, Alexander motioned for the project manager to explain.

Then, the project manager continued, "It's not a huge problem, but the interpreter that we had with us previously wouldn't be able to work with us anymore. We have to find a new interpreter as soon as possible, or our discussion with the Aris government might take a toll. To everyone's knowledge, the Arise language is a lesser-known language, and not many people can interpret it. It's rather hard to get a suitable interpreter for this project."

*This is indeed an issue.* Right then, Alexander instructed his subordinates, "I want all of you to do your best to look for Arise interpreters. We need to get a new interpreter no matter how much we need to pay them, as the project's progression can't be delayed any longer."

"Yes, President Griffith."

After the meeting ended, Alexander handed Griffith Group's latest financial report to Jonas in the president's office. Nevertheless, instead of reading the report, Jonas called out to Elise, who was standing a distance away from them. "Come over, Ellie. I want you to help me to read this report."

Elise, who was summoned, stopped playing her game and walked over. When Jonas handed her the report, she looked hesitant because a financial report was not one to be read by unauthorized personnel.

"Read through it and tell me what you think about it."

*Hmm... Well, if he says so.* Elise had no choice but to take the report and start reading it.

Right then, she had to admit that Alexander was great at managing the company. Through the financial report, Elise could see that Griffith Group had been profiting stably throughout the entire season.

However, her gaze paused somewhere before she quickly looked away after a while.

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Seeing that Elise finished reading the report, Jonas asked, "What do you think?"

Elise answered truthfully, "Griffith Group's financial report is outstanding, and there seems to be almost no problem, but..."

She trailed off and glanced at Alexander. "But I think there's a problem with one of the statistics."

Upon hearing her, Alexander had his eyes brightened while Jonas looked calm. "Tell me about the problem."

Elise took the report and flipped it open to page five before pointing at one of the statistics. "This project, the Genesis—although the financial report shows that it is gaining profit, you'll realize after seeing the same projects that the Genesis is gaining way too little in terms of profit—there might be a problem here."

Immediately, she pointed out the problem in the report. The projects got the same amount of investments but had discrepancies in profits. *It's not convincing to me that there's nothing fishy about this project.*

At this moment, Jonas grinned. "Not bad, Ellie! You have sharp eyes! Alex, get your men to investigate this."

"Yes, Grandpa."

"By the way, were you guys discussing hiring a new interpreter during the meeting just now?"

Alexander could feel a headache rising hearing that. If they only needed a regular interpreter, they would definitely have no problem finding one by offering high pay. However, it was too hard to find an interpreter for the Arise language.

"Grandpa, I'll continue to follow up with the interpreter's case. We will surely find a suitable candidate."

"Alright. I won't get involved in it if that's so. Still, plan your steps properly."

"I understand, Grandpa."

Then Jonas stood up and turned toward Elise. "Ellie, you should stay at the company for a while and return with Alex later on. I still have matters that I need to wrap up here."

"It's fine, Grandpa. You don't have to worry about me. I'll get back on my own in a bit."

Still, Alexander quickly interrupted Elise before she could say more. "Don't worry, Grandpa. I'll send her home."

"Alright. Please take care of Ellie for me."

Then Jonas got up and left. After he left, Alexander got his secretary to bring Elise to the lounge. "You can rest here for a bit. There are snacks in the drawer, and you can eat them if you're hungry. I'll take you out for dinner once I'm done with my work."

Though feeling rather awkward, Elise nodded. "Actually, you don't have to take care of me since I'm not a kid anymore."

However, there was a serious look on Alexander's face. "I already promised grandpa that I'll take care of you well, so don't make things hard for me."

Shrugging, Elise no longer refused Alexander's offer. "Can I borrow your laptop?"

Immediately, Alexander got his secretary to bring Elise a laptop. After settling Elise down, he went back to his office to continue working.

Unbeknownst to Alexander, Elise started tapping away at the keyboard after he left. She was typing at lightning speed as rows and rows of codes filled the laptop screen while she analyzed the content on the screen breezily. Finally, the laptop browser brought her to Griffith Group's hiring portal.

Staring at the 'Hiring Arise Interpreter' job post, she recalled hearing that they were looking for Arise interpreters during the meeting just now. Coincidentally, Elise studied the Arise language and was fluent in it.

Then she hit the 'apply' button. At the same time, Alexander's assistant exclaimed in the president's office, "Young Master Griffith, someone just applied for the Arise interpreter job!"

Narrowing his eyes, Alexander replied, "We shall test this person's ability through the

online assessment."

"Yes, Young Master Griffith."

After reading the documents sent to her, Elise took less than 3 minutes to translate everything before sending the documents back.

"Young Master Griffith, the translations are excellent. It seems like this person is fluent in Arise." Alexander's assistant sounded really excited while Alexander said lightly, "Find a way to get this person to work for us no matter how much they want from us."

"Young Master Griffith, the candidate only does online real-time interpretation."

Right then, Alexander's eyes darkened. *Online real-time interpretation without revealing their face? How mysterious!*

"Give me the laptop."

After handing Alexander the laptop, his assistant watched as he started tapping away on the keyboard with a similar speed as Elise. At this moment, Alexander was trying to track the candidate's IP address to know their real identity. However, the candidate was too smart and actually managed to slip away with any evidence every time he was close to tracking them down.

This time, Alexander knew that he had finally met his match, so he decided to just contact the candidate himself.

On the other hand, Elise didn't expect Alexander to be so cautious. Thus, she had no choice but to reveal one of her frequently used IP addresses to lower his cautiousness.

'You don't have to suspect me of having ill intentions. If I really wanted to do something, your company's system would have been hacked earlier on.' Elise was being honest, and her confidence right then made Alexander believe that she really didn't have any ill intentions.

'Alright. I'll send you the documents later on. Looking forward to working with you! Alexander was finally willing to let Elise become the Arise interpreter for the project.

A while later, Elise received a few documents. Without any delay, she quickly started

translating while the sound of keyboard clicking could be heard from the lounge.

Time passed by in the blink of an eye, and when Alexander was finished with his work, he finally remembered that Elise was still in the lounge.

Upon entering the lounge, he saw Elise clutching the laptop while staring at something on the laptop. Nevertheless, the screen was changed to the recent hottest teen drama by the time he got closer to her.

"Let's go get dinner."

Right then, Elise pretended to close her tab with the teen drama. "You're finally done with work. I'm starving."

She closed her laptop.

"What do you want to eat?" Alexander asked. At this moment, Elise pondered seriously before replying, "I feel like eating beef stew again. Why don't we go to eat beef stew again?"

Alexander raised his eyebrows. "Don't you have anything else that you feel like eating?"

Still, Elise shook her head. "I've been eating it so much throughout the years, and I don't think I can stop eating it now."

Alexander couldn't do anything to change Elise's mind since she had already made her decision. "Alright. Let's go eat beef stew, then."

Then he took Elise to the pan-European restaurant again. Upon smelling the familiar scent, a satisfied grin appeared on Elise's face. "Hey, can I get one set of beef stew? Wait, hang on, please make it two."

"Alright. Please take a seat. The food will be ready soon."

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## Chapter 55

Elise dragged Alexander to the seats outdoors. From his uncomfortable expression, she could tell that he wasn't used to eating at such places. Still, seeing how Elise was enjoying the situation, Alexander wasn't appalled at all. Instead, he continued accompanying her there.

"Two beef stews coming right up. Please do enjoy your food."

After the owner had served them their beef stews, Elise couldn't wait any longer and started digging into her food with a spoon. Upon tasting the familiar food, she felt her cravings being satisfied. "Eat up! It's delicious!"

Although Alexander really wanted to tell her that he didn't like food with gravy-like texture, he had to admit that he fell in love with how beef stews tasted after having tried the dish once. Unable to control himself, he picked up his cutleries and started eating as well.

"It's good, isn't it?"

"Hmm... It's not bad."

While Elise ate at a fast pace,(This novel will be daily updaed at ) Alexander could feel his gaze softening as he stared at her messy eating manner.

Unbeknownst to them, a red Ferrari parked at the side of the road at this moment.

Ashlyn, who was sitting at the driver's seat, took off her glasses and looked at Alexander, who was eating outdoors, in disbelief. Initially, she thought that she had mistaken someone else for him. However, she confirmed that the person that she was seeing was Alexander after seeing Elise's 'appalling' face.

Unable to stop herself, Ashlyn unbuckled her seatbelt and got out of the car before walking toward them. "Alexander, it's you!"

Upon hearing that, Elise paused before she looked up instinctively to see Ashlyn. Immediately, she felt as if her appetite was gone.

Nevertheless, Ashlyn ignored her and initiated a conversation with Alexander instead. "Alexander, why are you eating this food? These kinda places are extremely unhygienic, and you might get food poisoning," she explained with a disdainful look

on her face.

To her surprise, Alexander replied nonchalantly, "I'm fine. It's nothing much." Then, he turned toward Elise and asked, "Are you done eating?"

Picking up the last piece of potato in her stew, she took the time to chew on her food. "I'm done."

"Let's go back, then."

Elise mumbled an agreement while Alexander called out for the owner to pay the bill. During the entire process, none of them bothered to acknowledge Ashlyn, who showed up out of nowhere.

Right then, Ashlyn gritted her teeth in anger while her hands clenched up into fists. Then, she quickly ran after them. "Alexander, how could you leave just like that?! Are you still blaming me for what happened previously? I..." She looked reluctant. Still, she decided to say it after giving Elise a look. "I was in the wrong previously, alright? I only did it because I was stupid. Can you forgive me, considering our friendship for so many years?"

At this moment, Alexander raised his eyebrows. He had always seen Ashlyn more as an acquaintance, as they only interacted because of their families. In the past, he used to admire Ashlyn's strong and independent character. Moreover, since she liked the same violinist as he did, he felt as if they were similar people.

However, he realized that his impression of Ashlyn might have been wrong ever since what happened previously.

"Calm down, Miss Lawson. Since we are not as close as you perceived, (This novel will be daily updated at )you don't really have to care about my feelings." From Alexander's tone, it was obvious that he wanted to distance himself from her.

Still, Ashlyn acted as if she didn't understand what he meant. "That's great. I was really worried that you would still be mad at me! By the way..." She suddenly recalled something and started digging through her bag before taking two violin concert tickets that she had prepared earlier out of her bag. "Alex, this is the concert ticket to our favorite violinist, Mike! He's performing in Athesea the day after tomorrow, so I got my friend to help me get VIP tickets. Why don't we go together?"

Truthfully, any ordinary man would have accepted Ashlyn's offer right there and

then, as no one would be able to resist a lady like her. However, Alexander rejected her without any hesitation, "I'm sorry, but I'm really busy with work, so I don't have the time to do so. Do enjoy the concert yourself."

Immediately, Ashlyn's face darkened. *This is Alexander's first time rejecting me.*

At this same time, Elise felt slightly awkward standing between the two of them. "Guys, why don't I go back by myself first?"

While this was what Ashlyn wanted, Alexander spoke up before she could say anything. "Wait for me here. I'll go get the car now."

Elise could only nod her head while Alexander walked away. After he left, Ashlyn glared at Elise before she warned, "Elise Sinclair, you'd better be mindful of your place and the difference between you and Alexander. You two are in completely different worlds, and it's impossible between you two. Stop trying to delude yourself about things that would never belong to you."

Nevertheless, Elise retorted without any hesitation, saying, "I could say that same to you! Ashlyn, you need to stop trying to delude yourself about things that would never belong to you. Can't you see that Alexander doesn't even want to talk to you? Aren't you embarrassed for constantly pestering him?"

"You!" Agitated, Ashlyn raised her hand and wanted to slap Elise, but her hand was grabbed tightly by Elise in the next second. "What's wrong? Are you trying to pick a fight with me just because you can't win verbally? Is this how young ladies are supposed to act? Where are your manners?"

Immediately, Ashlyn pulled her hand out of Elise's grip. "Just so you wait, Elise. The game has just started, and I have all the time in the world to toy around with you." After saying that, she turned around and headed toward her eye-catching Ferrari before disappearing from Elise's sight.

Upon getting in the car, Alexander asked Elise, "What did she say to you just now?"

Not expecting the question, Elise simply answered him, "It's nothing. We chatted."

Right then, Alexander gave her a look. Although it was obvious that he didn't believe what Elise said, he didn't try to probe and just said, "You don't have to care about her next time."

While Elise agreed with what Alexander said, she got curious and asked, "Do you like her?"

However, she didn't expect the atmosphere to become completely quiet after the question. *Oh no! Why did I even ask him about this?!*

"I don't." The answer that Alexander gave was completely his style. Short and sweet.

Upon hearing that, Elise felt sudden happiness blooming within her before she commented, "She looks like she really likes you, though." She was unaware that she sounded bitter when she said that.

Frowning, Alexander turned around to give Elise a look before he replied quietly(This novel will be daily updated at ). "You ask a lot of questions."

Elise quickly shook her head. "Whatever. I won't ask you questions anymore. It's nothing important, so you don't have to take them seriously!" Then, she quickly changed the topic. "I'll rest for a bit. Wake me up when we get home."

At that, Alexander hummed a little as an answer to her.