

Cooler Girl in Town Chapter 936 –

Chapter 936 Too Much of a Coincidence

An hour later, Jamie finally tiptoed down the stairs when he heard the front door closing shut. Elise returned from the foyer and immediately saw him creeping down furtively. “Are you a thief?” “Is she gone?” he whispered cautiously.

“Yes.” Finally, he stood up straight and swayed his arms like he had been exercising. “Do you plan to hide from her forever?” She found it funny.

“I don’t know what you’re talking about.” He acted ignorant while she stared at him amusingly. Let’s see how long you can put up that act. Feeling guilty, Jamie caved in. “Gosh, okay. I won’t keep hiding from her, but it’s not the time now.”

Elise shook her head and wanted to go upstairs to rest, but she was interrupted by the sound of the doorbell. Without wasting time, he fled upstairs and went into hiding. Both guessed that Narissa had returned for the umbrella she left there.

“You’d better not call yourself my junior when you’re out and about,” Elise yelled in his direction before opening the door. “What did you leave behind?”

To her surprise, she saw a few men dressed in suits instead of Narissa. The front person was older than the others. He had a head of gray hair that was slicked back nicely, and there was a watch in the pocket of his coat. His outfit was a simple but tailored luxury item, which was representative of his class.

“Who is this?” Elise greeted him with a nod.

“Is Mr. Keller at home?” The old man smiled at her.

“Who is that?” Jamie sped downstairs to the entrance once he heard the man’s voice.

“Good day, Mr. Keller. I’m from BJ Biotech—the butler of the Heidelberg Family. I specifically visited you today to thank you for saving Miss Heidelberg yesterday,” the old gentleman introduced himself.

“Thank me specifically?” Jamie could not recall any heroic action. “Who’s Miss Heidelberg?”

“Alicia Heidelberg. She was the dog owner you met yesterday.”

“Oh! Yes, I recall her. By the way, as her staff, aren’t you a little too negligent? How could you let her walk the dog alone? Had I not saved her, you would’ve lost your missus,” Jamie chattered away.

“Indeed, sir, you are right.” The old gentleman was humble and nodded along. After that, the other men handed Jamie an exquisite gift box. “This is a thank-you gift from her father, Mr. Heidelberg. Please accept it.”

“That was just a small favor! You don’t have to do this. Plus, she drove me home later, so I guess we’re even! Please take the gift with you.” Jamie waved his hand generously.

The old gentleman placed the gift box by the door and said lazily, “It is the Heidelberg Family’s rule to never take back what has been given to the others. If you are unsatisfied with the gift, you can request more. Mr. Heidelberg said that he would fulfill any of your wishes. One thing to keep in mind—Miss Heidelberg is still young, and her father does not wish to expose her to strangers too early. If you need anything, just contact me.”

On the surface, his humble and mild-mannered behavior might reflect his high standard in managing the Heidelberg Family and his character. However, upon closer inspection, one would realize that he was using politeness as a vehicle to convey their wish for Jamie to stay away from Alicia.

Jamie was smart and instantly got the hint. His expression fell before he snickered, “Alicia is a nice girl. Too bad she has a snobbish family.”

“Mr. Keller, you seem to be in a bad mood. I shall excuse myself now. My name card is in the bag. Please contact me if you need anything. Take care!”

The old gentleman was indeed the butler of a wealthy family who had been through many situations. Even after he was being scoffed at, he remained composed and delivered his words with a smile. Then, he left with the other men.

“I don’t f*cking care about this!” Jamie kicked the gift box out of the door in a fit of anger.

“You will.” Elise poured cold water on him.

“Boss, who are you siding with?” He felt victimized. He did a good deed yesterday, only to be perceived as an opportunist with a motive.

Shouldn’t she at least speak up for me?

She went into the house and continued, “Didn’t you hear? You saved the second daughter of BJ Biotech’s owner.”

“Whatever! I didn’t know that when I saved her.” He shrugged, determined to prove his innocence.

She stopped and put on a serious face. “We have two missions in Vegas so far. The first one is the Cubers. The second would be BJ Biotech.”

“Wait, isn’t that too much of a coincidence?” Jamie was in disbelief.

“It is a coincidence,” Elise said firmly.

“No wonder the Heidelbergs thought I had an ulterior motive.” Now, he felt that he could never clear his name. “No way! I need to explain everything to them!”

Being bull-headed again, he turned around and wanted to go after the men who visited them.

Alexander entered the house at that moment and immediately stopped him. “No need for that. You will only confuse and attract suspicion. Their distrust of you from the start has nothing to do with your guiltiness or lack thereof.”

That was a cruel and direct explanation, but it was the reality. Had it been another person apart from Jamie today, the Heidelbergs would have still treated them similarly.

He was at a loss for words and sat with his angry thoughts.

“Rather than wasting your time on overthinking, why don’t you go for it and get acquainted with Miss Heidelberg? That way, we will have an extra contact if we’re in talks about partnerships in the future,” Alexander added calmly.

“Let’s not do that. She doesn’t look like she’s involved in our circle. We’d better not touch her.” Although Jamie was annoyed at the Heidelbergs, he was unwilling to manipulate someone as kind as Alicia.

The world was already full of those who manipulated and traded their way up the ladder. Therefore, he wanted to protect the kind ones on the rare occasion that he came across them.

“Did you think she had a choice when she was born into this?” Alexander quietly strategized. “I bet the second daughter of the Heidelbergs was a popular target. Now that their family has successfully gotten approval for a new drug, many would love to take their share of the profits. If we get the chance to talk to the Heidelbergs, we would be strictly discussing business, but if someone else is ahead of us—for example, those from Wendy Jennings’ side—do you think it’s going to end well for that poor girl?”

One had to give it to Alexander, the negotiation expert. With a few lines, he crumbled Jamie’s resolve.

“I still think that it is not gentlemanly to do so, but if you say it’s the best outcome for Alicia, I would like to give it a try.”

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Two days later, a professionally dressed Alicia stood at a bowling alley in a two-handed position and took a few deep breaths. With a strong force, she lifted the ball in one hand and supported it with another.

Standing in front of the lane and aiming at the pins, she used up all her energy to roll the ball.

At the sight of her serious visage, one would be forgiven to think that she was a pro player who was confident about her imminent success.

In reality, the ball only traveled half of the lane before dropping into the gutter.

Despite that, she remained positive and made some simple adjustments before picking up a second ball.

Just when she wanted to throw the ball again, someone wrapped an arm around her waist.

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Coollest Girl in Town Chapter 937 –

Chapter 937 Gale's Trap

When she looked around, she could see Jamie standing behind her. The distance between them was close but not too uncomfortable. She could hear his attractive voice distinctly.

“Straighten your body. You'll be wasting your energy otherwise. When you're about to throw, your hand should not skew. Keep your arms relaxed and close to the body. Take firm steps forward and be quick when you strike. Use your left hand to control your center of gravity. Try it out.”

Under his guidance, Alicia made the adjustments. Soon, she took four quick steps and made her throw without hesitation. The ball rolled forward at high speed and struck down half of the pins.

“Yes!” She jumped in excitement. “Are you satisfied with taking down just a few pins?” he joked. “Those who want less will be happy.” She was positive about it. “By the way, why are you here?”

“Would you believe me if I say it's a coincidence?” He shrugged, looking rather uneasy. “Of course.” She beamed at him in a childlike manner, looking passionate and adorable. “That shows we are tied by fate. Am I right?”

He lost his composure in the face of her innocent smile. "Alright. To be honest, I faked this encounter. I did it because you're the second daughter from the Heidelberg Family, and I wanted to get to know your father through you."

"I know that." She did not look surprised. Not only that, her smile widened.

"You knew?" He had no idea what gave him away.

"The bowling alley has a strict membership requirement. I know almost every member who plays here. That's why I knew that us running into each other here was not a coincidence." She kept a smile on her face. "Anyway, I appreciate the honesty. I'll be frank with you as well. I am not involved in my dad's business, so I can't help you. Sorry about that."

"It's fine. I should be the one who feels sorry." Jamie looked embarrassed because he was the one who approached her with an ulterior motive, only to make her feel guilty. After all, she could not help him.

"Can we still be friends even if we can't talk business?" She shot her shot directly and boldly.

"Sure." This time, he did not beat around the bush and exchanged social media contacts with her.

Following that, he taught her a few bowling tips. During their conversation, he was once again impressed by her liveliness and carefree manner.

In other words, he saw Narissa in Alicia.

Half an hour later, she was worn out from the activity. Jamie got her a bottle of water and waited while she rested. He casually looked toward the entrance, only to spot Gale Myres walking in.

Gale and Alicia undoubtedly knew each other because he was the nephew from Mrs. Heidelberg's side of the family. Jamie knew that it would not be good if Gale noticed him mingling with Alicia.

"Oh. I almost forgot that I have something to attend to. Let's keep in touch. I'll go now. Bye!" He made up an excuse to escape since he was running out of time.

Alas, he was spotted by Gale, who walked up to Alicia. "Was that your friend?" He immediately prodded.

"Yes." She admitted right away. "We met a few days ago. He's a nice guy. Are you here to bowl?"

“Nope. Here to meet a friend,” he answered absentmindedly before starting his interrogation again. “It’s rare to see you hanging out happily with guys. Are you interested in him, by any chance?”

He always presented himself as an empathetic older brother in front of his younger cousins.

She smiled but did not deny it. Chuckling, he took the chance to encourage her to go after Jamie. “Young love is fleeting. If you’re interested in someone, you need to go for it. Lately, I’ve been going on dates with your future cousin-in-law. You should ask that guy out if there’s a chance. We could do double dates. Who knows? Going out with another couple might help with your relationship.”

“But I don’t know if he has the time or not.” She recalled Jamie saying he would fly home soon.

“You need to create the opportunity.” He hinted at her.

She was swayed and gave in. “I’ll try.”

Since Jamie had free time and was in the dark about Gale’s attendance, he agreed to Alicia’s double date without hesitation.

The next day, Gale brought Narissa to the meeting point early in the morning.

To his surprise, Alicia arrived earlier and was waiting for them at the entrance. He took the initiative to introduce everyone to each other, “This is Alicia, my cousin. Alicia, this is Narissa, your cousin-in-law.”

“Hey.” Narissa nodded as a greeting. She was a cold beauty who came off as confident.

“My cousin-in-law is such a cool lady,” Alicia complimented her with sincerity.

“Thanks.” Narissa forced a smile. She was fine with the compliment, but she felt uneasy about the ‘cousin-in-law’ title.

“You guys should go in first.” Alicia was thoughtful.

“What about you?” Narissa looked confused.

“I bet she’s looking for her boyfriend. Let’s not third-wheel.” Gale intentionally misrepresented the relationship between Jamie and Alicia.

“He’s not my boyfriend yet.” She bit her lower lip shyly.

“He will be soon. I know it because I have been through it.” He turned to Narissa with a smile. “Young girls like Alicia are shy.”

Narissa nodded with understanding.

“We’ll head in now. When he’s here, the two of you should join us,” he reminded Alicia and led Narissa into the venue.

Very soon, they heard the sound of a car parking. Narissa stopped and turned around to find Jamie and Alicia chatting away happily at the entrance.

Her heart sank at the sight, and she froze on the ground, thinking, Is Jamie her boyfriend?

Before this, she had thought of Alicia as a youthful and adorable girl. However, Alicia’s smile was oddly jarring at that moment.

So, she is Jamie’s type.

“They’re a good match, don’t you think so?” Gale fanned the flames. Narissa’s eyes welled up in tears, and she had a strong urge to leave the scene. “I think my makeup is smudged. I need to go to the washroom.” She made up an excuse and fled the scene.

When Jamie walked over with Alicia and saw Gale, he was attacked by a strong sense of uneasiness. From his experience working as a babysitter for the Cubers, he knew very well that Gale was always glued to Narissa. Therefore, he doubted that Gale would be here without her.

As expected, he heard Gale mentioning Narissa the next instant. “Narissa is touching up her makeup. Let’s wait for her at the court,” he suggested.

Jamie examined his phony expression and felt anxious. I have not mentally prepared myself to meet Narissa. Why did he set up a trap for me?

“Oh? I’ll touch up my makeup too. Jamie, go get the rackets with Gale. Thank you!”

Alicia’s absence created a private moment for the two guys.

“What’s this supposed to mean?” Jamie was sure that Gale had prior knowledge of his attendance.

“I should be the one asking you.” Gale fired back. “Alicia told us she wanted to introduce a friend. We never thought that friend would be you. I underestimated you. When you failed to get Narissa, you turned your attention to Alicia. What’s your motive?”

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Cooler Girl in Town Chapter 938 –

Chapter 938 An Injured Alicia

“You’re saying you didn’t plan this?” Jamie was livid. “I think I stated last time how I don’t wish to see you anymore, so what reason do I have to send my love rival to my fiancé’s side?” Not only did Gale not admit it, but he also started to turn the tables. “It really isn’t you?” Jamie’s thoughts began to waver.

“If you don’t believe me, then suit yourself.” Gale was upset on the surface. “I’m reminding you now—since you have abandoned Narissa once, I hope you don’t harass her anymore in the future. Let’s live in peace without seeing each other and bid our last farewells after this gathering. I do not wish for any more complications to arise.” Then, he turned around and walked out.

After giving it some thought, Jamie decided to stay back and see what was up. Inside the bathroom, Narissa washed her face repeatedly with cold water until she thoroughly calmed down. Subsequently, she leaned on the counter and zoned out while looking in the mirror.

She did not even have any makeup on, to begin with. She merely could not control her emotions in front of Jamie and had to hide temporarily.

Even though she, in her mind, enacted their encounter a lot of times, she did not predict how easily he affected her just by standing there.

Hearing footsteps from outside, she quickly calmed herself and turned the tap off before straightening her back.

It turned out to be Alicia, who saw a cold beauty standing by the sink.

“Hello, cousin-in-law.” She greeted Narissa before standing beside her and applying sunscreen.

Since she was still young, her skin was fair and healthy, so she did not need to apply too much makeup.

“Why don’t you just call me by my name?” Narissa replied curtly, thanks to her awful mood.

Noticing this, Alicia kept her sunscreen away and observed her face. “Gale made you angry, didn’t he? Just ignore him. Is he still not satisfied with such a perfect girlfriend like you? I’m going to talk to him later!”

“No, it’s not...” Narissa did not know how to answer her. “Anyway, it has nothing to do with him.”

“Is it your period?” Alicia took out some tampons from her bag. “I brought some with me, but I’m not sure if you’re used to this brand.”

Narissa parted her lips and wanted to refuse her, yet she knew that Alicia would overthink if she did, so she could not reject her gesture. “Thank you.”

“Don’t sweat it. It’s just period. We’re all human after all. We do forget sometimes, so I think we should look out for each other,” Alicia said with a smile.

Sighing, Narissa looked at the tampon in her hand and blurted, “Alicia, how long have you been together with your boyfriend?”

“Not long, actually. It was me who had a crush on him at first. I felt like he didn’t want to be tied down, so I’m not sure if I should confirm his feelings,” she stated truthfully.

Narissa felt conflicted inside and stayed silent for a while.

After chatting for some time, they went out to the court only to see Jamie and Gale sitting separately with nasty expressions.

Upon seeing Narissa, Jamie immediately stood up, yet he hesitated for a long time and did not go up to greet her in the end. Meanwhile, she misunderstood his intentions as not wanting to let Gale know about their relationship, hence his act of seeming distant.

“Since everybody is here, let’s start.” Gale, being the oldest, hosted the game.

They gathered to play tennis that day, so naturally, they could not ignore the main act.

“I don’t think we should do that.” Alicia suddenly recalled Narissa’s condition. “I say, Gale, aren’t you being a bit careless? You forgot about her period, didn’t you? You think you can marry her with that attitude?”

“Oh? Are you on your period, Narissa?” Gale asked cluelessly.

“It’s fine.” She picked her racquet up and walked to the court. “I’m not that fragile.”

Since she was so determined, the others did not say anything.

Before they began, Alicia even reminded Jamie to take it easy on Narissa, yet after a few minutes, it was her that was losing to Narissa instead.

Alicia, whose stamina was insufficient, could only rest while using her racquet as a prop.

“How about we finish up?” Since Narissa played everything with a serious attitude, she felt that Alicia’s skills would mean that she could not play at full tilt, which bored her.

A hardy person by nature, she was not one to empathize much with others, so she was worried that Alicia might get hurt if they were to continue.

“No! I can continue!” Alicia stood up again and tried to channel her inner athlete. “Come on. I’m going to get serious now!”

“If you can’t, best not to force yourself,” stated Jamie gently.

Excluding Alicia, the other three had stamina that no ordinary people could come close to, so it was normal that she could not keep up.

“It’s fine.” She panted while smiling. “It’s only fun when playing against pros like you guys. Come on. I’ve caught my breath.”

Not able to dissuade her, they could only continue.

After playing for over ten rounds, she started to run out of breath. She slipped and twisted her ankle while trying to receive a perfect counter from Narissa and crashed onto the ground.

Standing near her, Jamie immediately threw his racquet aside before running up to her. “Is everything okay?”

Although the pain was enough to form sweat on her forehead, Alicia still tried to act tough. “I’m fine.”

“Your ankle is swollen, yet you’re still saying that?” He had a slightly upset tone.

Regardless if it was her with the dog, playing bowling, or retrieving the ball, she just would not listen despite his numerous persuasions, thanks to her stubbornness.

Yet, he could feel that she was different from those phony women who would say they ‘loved’ sports. Instead, she genuinely liked the activities; she was merely too weak to partake in them properly.

It was because of this that Jamie treated her preferentially just like he did with Charissa. He considered her a true friend, so he naturally would not look the other way when she got hurt.

Alicia, who was embarrassed by his words, lowered her head in silence. Meanwhile, Jamie’s actions were perceived as love and affection toward her in Narissa’s eyes.

“With such an injury, you should quickly go rest up in the break room. I’ll call for a doctor,” said Gale.

Jamie helped Alicia up and acted in place of a crutch as she hobbled along. Yet, her step only served to agitate her wound as she drew in sharp breaths due to the pain, which was all heard by him.

Plus, the distance from the court to the break room was far, so her actions might even aggravate her injury. In the end, he decided to carry her and ran to the break room.

Seeing his fleeting back, Narissa gulped and tossed her racquet before walking away.

“Are you leaving? I can send you back if you want.” Gale was not about to pass up the chance to further appeal to her.

“No need.” She outright rejected him. “I’m sorry, Gale, but I want to be alone for now.”

“Alright. Call me if you need anything.” Since pushing on was not an option, he could only give up.

Yet, not long after she left, he tailed her in secret.

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Coollest Girl in Town Chapter 939 –

Chapter 939 The Princess, the Prince, and the Knight

With the swelling worsening, Jamie was worried that there might be side effects in the future. So, he let her down and went to the first-aid room in an attempt to locate any suitable medication.

Meanwhile, Narissa was riding a motorcycle by herself in the jungle. Although she was already accelerating, the speedometer kept rising without her noticing.

At that moment, what she saw was not the road, the trees, or the river. What occupied her mind was the scene between Jamie and Alicia.

It was then that a deer suddenly ran out to the road. Not being able to avoid it in time, she could only steer out of the way.

Although the deer managed to cross the road, her motorcycle skidded for quite a distance, stopping when it crashed into a tree in the end.

Fortunately, the expensive helmet and protective suit soaked up most of the impact, but a big part of her right leg’s skin was grated. The instant the motorcycle fell, it crushed her calves as well.

Even if Narissa was used to the sensation of pain, her face still went pale, and her lips turned violet from all the resisting. Enduring the pain, she fished out her phone and dialed Elise's number.

"Narissa? What's up?"

The moment her voice rang, Narissa, who had never shed a tear from being injured, bawled out uncontrollably. "I'm sorry, but I didn't know who else to call. I crashed on the road, and I don't want my family to know. The only friend I can trust is you..."

Never seeing this side of her before, Elise immediately ran downstairs with her phone in hand. "Rissa, don't panic. Send your location to me. I'll be there as fast as I can. Don't panic!"

In actuality, she was in such a hurry that she forgot 'Anastasia' would never address Narissa as 'Rissa'. Yet, in the heat of the moment, both of them paid no heed to such details.

After receiving her location, she immediately found Alexander to accompany her. "Darling, Rissa is hurt. Come with me now!"

"Keep your cool." He held her hand while inquiring about the situation, "Is it serious?"

"I heard her sobbing quite hard, so she must've sustained some injury!" She started to breathe heavier.

Patting the back of her hand, he comforted her by saying, "Don't worry. Narissa isn't that fragile."

"Okay." She nodded. "Let's go."

"Wait." Suddenly, he took his phone and called someone.

At first, Elise thought he was calling an ambulance before changing her thoughts upon hearing his words. "I'm helping you out this time. Don't say we never did. Narissa got into an accident at Isun Ring Road. This is your last chance. Use it wisely." He then hung up.

"Did you call Jamie?" She realized whom he called.

"If I don't give him a push, these two would never be together," stated Alexander calmly.

"You're right." She nodded in agreement. "I was so caught up that I forgot about this."

"It's fine. I'm here, aren't I?" He caressed her hair dotingly. "Sit tight. Even though I called him, we still have to go over and take a look."

“Of course.” With Alexander by her side, she did not need to put up such a strong facade.

Back at the sports center, Jamie averted his gaze between the ointment in his hand and the break room that was far away. After a split second of hesitation, he pocketed the ointment and ran out.

He drove like a madman with all the animals scampering out of the way. In a few short minutes, he had arrived at the start of the ring road, so he slowed down to search for where the crash might have taken place.

Yet, how could he be faster than the sly Gale?

When he found the smoke rising from not far away, he drove at max speed to clear the final corner only to find that Gale was faster than him, for he had located Narissa first.

Seeing Gale carry her into his car, Jamie did not dare to approach them as he let go of both feet, letting the car stall. How perfect they look. Just like the princess and her prince. They do seem like the perfect couple. It looks like the knight that I am is useless.

A tear rolled down his cheek at that point as he wiped it away, accompanied by a bitter smile. It was as if he was accepting reality. Yet, no human could ever control their emotions perfectly.

If only I could have met Narissa a little earlier... I am always so unreliable. When she needed love, I realized it way too late. When she needed someone to protect her, I came too late. Once late, always too late. It's as if everything is preordained.

Bzzz... Bzzz...

The phone in his pocket vibrated as Jamie watched Gale's car drive away while he placed the phone to his ear absent-mindedly.

“It's me. Did you manage to find any medicine?” It was Alicia.

“I did, but it seems like I was too slow.”

Even he did not know whether he was referring to the ointment or Narissa.

“You're not slow. I'll wait for you.” She was as understanding as always.

Breathing out, Jamie snapped back to reality in the end. “I'll return now.”

On the way back, he phoned Alexander to tell them that they did not need to drop by anymore.

Elise, who hung up, was confused by his words. “He said that we didn’t have to go and that someone is taking care of Narissa.”

“I think it’s Gale,” Alexander replied instantly. “Hasn’t he been trying to court her profusely?”

Although the thought of Narissa being out of danger relieved her, Elise still considered the whole situation a bit of a loss. “What a shame. It was such a perfect opportunity.”

On one side, Narissa was her best friend. On the other hand, Jamie was one of her most trusted friends. If they could be together, then she would not have to worry about any of them being hurt.

“You don’t have to be so pessimistic. Good things don’t happen overnight. Perhaps things might turn around. What if they still have a chance?” Alexander had a bright outlook on the situation.

“I sure hope so. These two sure know how to make me worry!”

In the meantime, Jamie returned to the break room lifelessly. He acted like a living zombie as he propped up Alicia’s leg mechanically and applied the ointment attentively. After everything was done, he patiently put on her shoe for her.

Throughout the whole process, she had her gaze fixed on him. When the treatment was done, he helped her up before she tiptoed and gave him a quick peck on the lips, blushing intensely. “Thank you.”

This stunned Jamie, yet he thought afterward that people abroad tend to act more freely in regard to expressing their gratitude through skinship, so he did not treat it as anything else. Yet, he had forgotten that Alicia practically lived on Lisbon Street.

In her mind, the kiss sealed their relationship.

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In the parking lot of Hotel Wegas, Rylantha Abbott and Clara Hissinger sat in the backseats of a van. One had a mature and domineering aura while the other was seductive and promiscuous; both had their charms.

“Everything is in accordance. You’d better not screw it up again!”

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Chapter 940 Why Is It You?

At the thought that Clara could not even figure a man out, Rylantha wanted to crack her skull open to see if she had a brain or not. “Don’t worry. It was just an accident last time. Have you seen any man refuse a freebie? Besides, with the two of us this time, nothing will go wrong.” Clara was highly confident in herself.

“That’s true. Those ugly men like your type,” Rylantha spoke without any filter. “Deal with Ariel’s man first. Then, I’ll enter when he has his guard down. It’ll be like taking candy from a baby. In the end, one can only trust their people.”

“Since you’re worried about Ariel fighting the inheritance with you, why not just end her?” Clara’s slender finger swiped across her neck, solidifying her words into literal meaning.

“Do you think that has never crossed my mind? With that old fool protecting her, it’s not that easy to kill her. Since I have to accept this fact sooner or later, I should put my people around her earlier. If so, then I won’t have to worry about controlling the Abbott Family in the future.” Rylantha’s eyes narrowed as her ambition was expressed.

“That is a brilliant plan.” Clara gave her a thumbs up. Yet, she could not hold back and asked, “Say, how can you make sure that they won’t betray you and side with her after dealing with Ariel?”

This made the smile on Rylantha’s face vanish. “That is none of your business. If you still want to leech off the family, just fulfill your orders as stated.”

“Okay, okay. Pretend I never asked this, then. I’ll go ahead with the preparation now.”

Clara alighted from the car gleefully before turning stoic the moment she turned around, mumbling to herself, Hmph. Who does she think she is?! If I wasn’t interested in Danny, who would want to get themselves entangled with you? You’re just some woman struggling through menopause! You deserve your daddy issues!

...

The moment Ariel and Danny appeared in the fancy private room, Rylantha welcomed them proactively. “Oh my, Ariel and Danny, it’s so good that you guys came. I was afraid you two were still angry at me. I can finally rest easy after seeing you guys!” she greeted them enthusiastically upon switching her arrogant attitude.

This made Ariel exchange a confused gaze with her husband. Just before, we were at each other’s throats. Now, she’s acting so friendly. What is she playing at?

“Well, don’t just stand there. Have a seat!” Rylantha said happily.

Since they dared to come, they were not afraid of anything bad happening to them, so Ariel and Danny sat down.

Before their seats were even warmed up, Rylantha had returned with wine. "I'll dedicate this toast to you, Ariel. I didn't think things through in the past and said a lot of hurtful things. I hope that you don't mind what I said and be magnanimous enough to forgive me. In the end, we are still sisters by blood. In this world, besides Dad, we are the closest in terms of blood. We still need each other in the future, so I'll be downing this glass. You can choose to drink or not to drink. Just treat this as my apology!"

After what seemed like sincere words, she tilted her head back and drank the glass of red wine all at once.

Since Ariel grew up with her mother, she had no other siblings to speak of. Also, her mother's cold and distant attitude led her to long for familial love since young, so she fell hook, line, and sinker.

Standing up as well, she used her glass to toast with Rylantha's. "Let bygones be bygones. We'll only seize the future from now on." She also drank the wine all at once.

"You sure can drink, sis!" Rylantha proceeded to flatter her even more. "You're right. We need to seize the future. With you here, I'll have someone to depend on." Then, tears fell from her face before she wiped them away while putting on a strong facade. "This is a happy day. Let's have a toast again!"

Ariel was all but too willing to do so.

Meanwhile, Danny did not drink since he had to drive.

After some time, Rylantha seemed to recall something as she slapped her forehead. "Oh my, I forgot to give you the gift I prepared. Danny, if you don't mind, could you get it for me from the parking lot?"

"Sure." Not on his guard, he took the car key and went outside.

He entered the elevator and headed to the basement before locating a black van as per Rylantha's instructions.

Unlocking the van with the electronic car key, he walked over and opened the side door before entering the back. Yet, the moment he stepped in, an extremely odious scent attacked his nose.

He frowned and went outside to take a few deep breaths before pinching his nose and stepping back into the van. "The heck. What kind of smell is this? Surely, Rylantha can't be this disgusting?"

Yet, he had no choice, for he had promised her, so he could only search around in the backseat. Although she did state the gift was in the back, she did not specify where exactly, so he had to fumble through the car while pinching his nose.

Not even thirty seconds had passed before he felt dizzy and stumbled onto the leather seat. Oh, no! It's a trap!

It was then Danny noticed that something was wrong, but it was all too late.

He started to see double before losing control of his limbs and his body temperature shooting up.

After an unknown time had passed, the van door opened again, and he saw 'Ariel'.

"It's great that you're here, honey." He sat up with difficulty. "I seemed to have been poisoned. I don't feel so good..." While he said that, he started to undo his tie.

Clara, who was looking at him, became all giddy at the sight of this. I did not make the wrong choice by putting all this effort into dressing like Ariel. I even used the same brand of perfume.

After a few hours, he opened his eyes only to see that the woman in his arms was not Ariel. He was so shocked that he instantly fell to the floor.

"Why is it you?!"